

PERSONAL

I was asked recently what I thought was the worst mistake middle-aged women could make in the clothes they wore. At the time, I couldn't think of anything worse than wearing clothes made of Crimpeline or any other man-made fibre. (What a mistake it was, as it turned out, for man to make fibre at all.) But, thinking it over, I realized that a far worse thing was wearing skirts that are too short. (Too-short trousers for men are the equivalent horror.)

I mention this because, being in a sour mood, I had decided to list all the things I currently hate most, and too-short skirts for the middle-aged came high on the list. My mood was sour because, whereas I usually love the beginning of September, the relief from the horrible August, the new academic year, this year not only was August marvellous, but September, at least in Wiltshire, came in with an entirely lenient gale, so violent that it blew down everything I had been trying for two years to make grow. Neither the apples nor the Michaelmas daisies nor the coming Autumn term could compensate for that. So I sat indoors, with the wind howling outside, imagining myself teaching a

class just how awful the things I hate are, and why they are so bad.

First, then, the too-short skirts. "But what," some objectionable member of the class asks, "is too short? How do you know what is the right length for a skirt? Don't skirt lengths change from time to time?"

I was bound to admit that skirt lengths do change, but, I explained, at any given time there is some length that is wrong. "Do you mind skirts that are too long?" they asked.

"Not much," I had to say.

"Do you mind young people wearing skirts that are the wrong length?"

"No," I had to say. "What's wrong with it the middle-aged, then?"

I was reduced to saying rather feebly to my imaginary class, "It's embarrassing. It makes them look pathetic. It's awful."

Right. Let us try something more awful than short skirts, and surely easier to explain: the confusion, more and more common, between "may" and "might". On the radio the other day I heard the following sentence: "If it hadn't been for his prompt action, the children may have been burned in their beds."

Now all my imaginary class, I hope,



Mary Warnock

would see at once that this was not only wrong but awful, and even misleading. If the children may have been burned, we ought to try to find out whether they have or not, if necessary breaking into the house; but if they might have been burned but for his action, we know they are all right. "May" and "might" are quite different

in sense.

But my class will not be satisfied with this. "Generally they mean the same," they argue. "What's the difference? He may have been a fool, but he wasn't a knave and he might have been a knave, but he wasn't a knave mean the same, don't they?"

"Well," I say, feeling my way, "in the first place those sentences are ambiguous. They can be read as concessives: 'Even though he was a fool, he wasn't a knave', or they can be taken as expressing uncertainty about the first clause, contrasted with certainty about the second."

"Yes," they say, "we see all that. But whichever way you take them, don't they mean the same as one another?"

I am bound to say that I think they do. Well, perhaps it's only in hypothetical sentences that "may" and "might" are so different.

My imaginary class indignantly tries this out: "If you go out into the road, you may get run over"; and "If you go out into the road, you might get run over."

What's the difference? At last I think I dimly see a difference. Doesn't "might" express a more remote

chance? But it's difficult to be sure. An argument breaks out as to whether on this point. Perhaps we may have a negative hypothetical.

They try: "If I don't go now I might not see her." "That goes a little further. Either makes sense, and doesn't seem much different between them. It certainly isn't negative which demands 'might' for the 'may'."

At last I sink of these things: were to play golf, I might miss it and "If I hadn't played golf, I might not have missed her." (None of the above is in fact the case, I'm sure, but I'm not sure I'm not equivalent in form to the concessive started with). And at last I see, in my class: "It's the subjunctive. I have to use 'might' not 'may' when the subjunctive." They look a bit blankly.

I shall give up trying to explain the list of awful things. I finally say class and say: "Don't ever let me see you pronouncing 'contribute' with emphasis on the first syllable. The emphasis is on the middle syllable. Why? The more obstinate my members ask."

"Because I say so," I shout. "I should be just wrong. It's awful."

DIARY

Brother unionists but few sisters

It is a more orderly conference than the Labour one - the speeches are better prepared and the clientele dress rather more neatly - but it is still wholly in the grip of men. The National Union of Teachers is one of the worst offenders - women form 73 per cent of their membership but their 42-strong TUC delegation contains just two Ms and two Mrs's.

The General Council's unlikely education supremo is Clive Jenkins, he makes a reasonable list of introducing the education debate - working snatches of Welsh fervour into the script written for him by Carol Bailey, the bright light of the TUC's tiny band of educational bureaucrats.

There was general, mutual congratulation that the Technical and Vocational Initiative was no longer to be cheap training for workers' children but a practical curriculum for all - including middle-class offspring. Fred Jarvis was most eloquent on the subject: "No undermining of the comprehensive principles - all schemes to cater for all abilities."

I know that's what the terms of reference now say, yet few of my pushy friends seem to think it exactly tailor-made for their children. I hope it's carefully monitored - of which more anon.

The TUC's latest weapon with which to fight the cuts is the Educational Alliance - a grouping of 14 trade unions and 20 other organizations who have committed themselves to campaigning for education - as well as jobs.

It is more broadly based than its predecessor, the Council for Educational Advances, which used to be put together by the NUT and the local authorities whenever cuts loomed on the horizon. Yet so far it has been less effective than the CEA was in the past.

Clive told us that it would need more cash to "get the pistons moving". I hope sufficient unions put their members' money where their mouths were at conference.



Clive Jenkins: Welsh fervour

TVEI repairman

I flitted across the Pannines from the horny hands of Blackpool to smooth professorial ones in Leeds, where I encountered accommodation if possible more spartan than that of my Blackpool flatlet, in a university female hall of residence cell.

We were assorted profs, HMIs, project directors, and even someone from BP, convened by David Layton, who, as I learned, was to dislodge education - at Leeds, to dislodge a chapter from the Crowther Report: "The Alternative Way: The Rehabilitation of the Practical."

At least no one from the TUC could have accused us of wanting to re-

lief in the need to transform the curriculum (especially the science curriculum) so that it consisted far more of doing things than remembering them.

It was nice to have Mr John Woolhouse, Keith Joseph's brand new director of TVEI, as a fellow conspirator. He sat and listened to educationalists, placing him and his scheme in the radical, almost revolutionary tradition. I hope he took it all seriously; if he did, his first recommendation to Sir K will be to stop agonizing about the 16-plus and save a bit more money by abolishing all public exams at 16.

Mr Woolhouse and all the hard-working TVEI teachers will provide a profile at 18 which will be so much more useful - to universities, polytechnics and employers.

Too honest Toogood

From Leeds I escape further north, to see my old friend Professor Harry Rée in his laudible habitat, high on the slopes of Angleborough - from which he has just written one of the best books ever on the Yorkshire Dales.

His real enthusiasm, however, is to keep the idea of community education alive and well in England. Having written a biography of Henry Morris who started the whole movement in Cambridgeshire 50 years ago, he now edits its monthly newsletter *Community Education Network*.

After the recent HMI report on *Midley Junior School* in Telford, which was distorted out of all proportion by the *Daily Express* and the local Tory MP, he wrote a wide little editorial wondering whether it was now official DES policy to destroy all those schools, built up on the pattern of the village colleges, which attempt to provide an education for the whole community.



Fred Jarvis: most eloquent

The truth, I suspect, is more prosaic. Shropshire is accident prone in these matters. Just over 10 years ago it put a medium pace, grammar school headmaster to "normalize" Market Drayton comprehensive, and both school and community exploded mid-split down the middle. The good politicians of Shropshire now seem to be trying the same operation again (they've moved in a *Chronicle* friend from Ludlow), but this time things may not go quite so smoothly.

The exact results are better, the parents have produced a pamphlet backing the community education philosophy of Philip Toogood, the head

No 118 CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues:

Across

1 Type of Window in the French upper room (7)

5 We hear Tony of the Romans do better (5)

8 Colour scheme (9)

9 Wild eye indistinguishable from its vegetable fellow (3)

10 What people who have been on sailing out do (4)

12 Extremely difficult and not properly finished (8)

14 Hesitated to have father taken advantage of (6)

15 It may be rude to make a digression (6)

17 An advance to make (8)

18 It was enough for our... (4)

21 Old prophet among the prophets (3)

22 Gave generously when there was a whim? (6,5)

24 Piece of Lamb? (5)

25 Time for expansion (17)

Down

1 Don't take too much notice of (7)

2 One may say it is a... (7)

3 I return to... (7)

4 It is related to the... (7)

6 Consequence of... (7)

7 People who... (7)

10 One who... (7)

11 Credit to... (7)

13 A bad... (7)

16 Twisted... (7)

19 Dismay... (7)

20 Solution to... (7)

the authority forced out, as special investigating committee appointed by the politicians and county council to normalize the school, have now only got to September 27 to produce a decision for the secondary education sub-committee.

Shropshire is one of those local education committees chaired by the formidable Dr J. Marsh, who is at least as intelligent as her direct education. I gained some respect for her when she was a witness before the Select Committee and I hope she will with delicate care through particular minefields.

If Keith Joseph can now show mind and smile on Crowthorpe City School in Liverpool - because parents support it - I would thought that Barbara Harris should persuade her landowning class on the county council to join the Tory trend and be proud of a community school in their midst.

Philip Toogood's error at Market Drayton was excessive honesty. He told the school the inspectors were lying. I always respect the inspectors' judgment, but in this case the school just before my first day in the grammar school in Shropshire, "I don't want anything to do with it, I just want you all to be average best."

Christopher

THE TIMES Educational Supplement

TVEI creaming may force I.e.a.s to cut subjects

by Nick Wood

Academic education, particularly at sixth-form level, is threatened by the government's new Technical and Vocational Education Initiative, Miss Brown, the outgoing head of Her Majesty's Inspectorate, warned last week.

The danger is that by creaming off bright pupils, the scheme may push up the unit costs of traditional academic courses, and so force hard-pressed schools into cutting the number of subjects on offer, Miss Brown told the annual conference of the National Association of Inspectors and Educational Advisers in Winchester.

Miss Brown asked the advisers to look at the new scheme for 14 to 16-year-olds - which began this term in pilot form in 14 I.e.a.s - very carefully.

"We have too many cases in the past where, in successive waves, people have been primitive in regard to academic ventures and made mistakes. With TVEI, we cannot afford to make mistakes," she said. "TVEI is a good example where it is terribly important to keep an eye on the rest of the system."

Students pulled out of normal schools and put on the new scheme will be looked after, Miss Brown said, but those left behind might be at a disadvantage.

"Because this reduction in population will increase the cost of academic education for the groups left on academic courses, we are going to have to watch very carefully that we do not reduce what we provide for them, as so many cases we have done already."

"At a time when competitive A level results are of enormous importance to those youngsters and when general education is important to them, we must make sure costing of this side is kept under review in the interests of fairness and to avoid loss of quality."

"I think there is a case for arguing that some sixth-form education has lost quality because it hasn't been possible to provide all the general elements that used to be available," Miss Brown said.

Mr Richard Hillier, deputy director of the TVEI unit, this week denied that the scheme presented a direct financial threat to academic education in schools. In fact, in the schools involved it would lower pupil teacher ratios all round, so that "everybody benefited a bit", he told *The TES*.

"We are meeting the additional costs that authorities incur in maintaining these new options and that includes any costs of protecting the curriculum as it stands. I am not aware of any authority finding this a problem."

But in the long-term the TVEI could pose a threat to traditional subjects as parents and pupils opted for the new courses now being offered, possibly leaving old subjects in a state of "decline in popularity and maybe atrophy", he added.



Rescue workers outside the closed lead mine in Cumbria where 17-year-old YTS trainee David Brookes fell 60ft to his death. The accident at the High Plains outdoor activities centre near Nenthead has led to calls for an inquiry into safety standards for school-leavers on outdoor education courses. Full report page 3.



HEADS UNDER FIRE

Critics say they need better selection and training. David Hart asks if that can help head teachers cope with growing pressures created by new laws, parent power, accountability and interference from governors and politicians, page 4.

Sole woman CEO to quit

by Diane Spencer

Britain's only woman director of education is to retire early and she doubts if others will want to take on such senior posts.

Miss Gwen Rickus, director of education in the London borough of Brent since 1971, is taking early retirement in March. She has worked for the authority since 1965 under Labour and Conservative councils.

She doubted even in these days of "a greater degree of partnership between married women and their husbands" whether many men were yet prepared to tolerate their wives putting in a 15 hour day and spending several evenings a week at meetings, as she did.

One of her reasons for retiring early was because she was "one of the old brigade who look after an elderly mother" and her home responsibilities might get rather harder.

Looking back on her time as director, Miss Rickus said she did not enjoy the "politicizing around education" which was not confined to one particular party. It reminds me of the 1930s. Too much political involvement at grassroots level can be dangerous, although the safeguards are there in governing bodies.

A former SED president and Kent's chief education officer for the past ten years, Mr. Bill Petty (62), also announced this week that he intends to retire in February.

Authorities demand cash-conditions negotiating link Employers spring pay surprise

by David Lister

Detailed negotiations on a new salary structure for teachers were put into question this week by a surprise demand from the employers that the talks cover both pay and conditions.

The local authorities - the management side - have also decided they want all the talks involving a new structure to be discussed over a three-day meeting at a country retreat.

The teachers have always resisted discussing pay and conditions of service in the same forum. Pay is negotiated in the Burnham committee and conditions in CLEA/Jst. This has long been a source of frustration to the management and indeed to the Government, who have been unable to trade off pay rises with changes in teachers' conditions of service.

A change in the system for the annual pay negotiations would entail new legislation. However, a change just for the discussions on the new salary structure, excluding talks on next year's pay rise, would not.

In the current talks the management is proposing a new, three-year entry grade for newly qualified teachers with assessment before progressing. The teachers want a two-year entry grade with automatic progression except in exceptional circumstances. The teacher unions vying in their attitudes towards assessment.

The employers wanted to bring in induction and supervision of new teachers to the talks, but the teachers' side, led by Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, has so far refused to discuss these subjects at the talks, saying it is the wrong forum. It is likely that the employers would also want to bring the vexed question of midday supervision into the talks.

In a firmly worded letter to the teachers' side this week, Mr Stephen Rouse, secretary to the management side, proposes that the talks be conducted in a single working party, adding: "It is the management side's view that to conduct discussions on a range of matters which are so intricately connected, in two separate forums, will make at best for very slow progress and is more likely to bring the whole process to a halt."

Mr Jarvis said this week that he would be considering the letter. Mr Nigel de Gruchy, deputy general secretary of the NAS/UTW, said: "We are not too fussy where the talks take place. The important thing is that progress be made on a new salary structure for teachers."

Devon left with YTS bill

by Mark Jackson

The Education Secretary this week said local authorities facing an education spending crisis over the Youth Training Scheme that they must get by next year's rate support grant reductions.

Mr Joseph said that the Government was being undertaken at Exeter College to state off a threat of immediate staff redundancies. Mr Philip Merfield, principal, said that a £110,000 deficit existed largely because of MSC forecasts of a big demand for YTS places. But overstaffing was nothing like the 55 staff (not 55 per cent, as reported in last week's *TES*) suggested by the district auditor.

THIS WEEK

Choice setback

The Government's policy of extending parental choice was dealt a blow this week

Tax savings

Rates and tax concessions save independent schools up to £30m a year, a conference was told

Lab test

Hilary White looks at new initiatives to encourage girls into science and engineering

and deliver us from tax and rates...

Helping hand

Should teachers, and those who train them, give more emphasis to the teaching of handwriting? 21

Play school

The BBC's nursery of the air is changing after 5,000 editions 23

Arts/Books

In love with Africa: David Sweetman on the dark continent's appeal; Stuart Macdonald on Sir

Hugh Greene's biography: Michael Church on a new study of Bertolt Brecht; Philippa Duvall on the South Bank's Guller Brigs; Colin Ward on Asia Brigs. 25-29

Resources/Media

John Laski casts a wary eye over LOGO look-alikes and comes up with a buyer's guide to the genuine article; Roy Bitchfield reviews

Thames Television's *A Game of Soldiers* and David Bell goes to see Billy Connolly's classical debut in *Andros and the Lion* 30,31

EXTRA

Travel: time to plan ahead for dog-sledding in Greenland, sailing round the Turkish coast, flying down to Florida or just taking a shopping trip to Calais. Also the first non-announcement of Operation Raleigh 37-52

Antidotes to indoctrination

It is Keith Joseph who is once heard to remark that the most effective antidote to political indoctrination was more political education. Though this has now to be set against the Secretary of State's more recently expressed views on the contents of the history and physics syllabuses, there is no reason to believe that he has modified his eminently sane position on political education *per se*.

This makes it all the more surprising that the latest storm (School to Work, page 15) about that delicate indoctrination/education divide, which has arisen *à propos* the content of Youth Training Scheme off-the-job courses, should apparently have followed discussions between Education and Employment ministers.

Without that information (in a note to members of the Youth Training Scheme accompanying the draft statement from Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State at the Department of Employment), it would have been easy to assume that once again the Manpower Services Commission was trampling all over the DES side of the education/training partnership supposedly embodied in the Youth Training Scheme.

The controversy centres on the section of the directive which lays down that "matters related to the organization and functioning of society should be excluded unless they are relevant to trainees' work experience".

The immediate agonized response from some providers - that this would rule out much of the content of standard life and social skills materials - might have been dismissed as over-reaction if Mr Morrison had not followed up his directive by asserting in a BBC radio interview that the YTS is "about training and it's about work experience, it's not about politics. . . . The fact of the matter is that taxpayers' money, and quite rightly in my view, has never been involved in party politics".

The impression this cannot fail to give is that Mr Morrison has overlooked the essential role of education in the programmes provided for young school-leavers making the transition to work, that - as Mr Donny O'Rourke of the British Youth Council suggested in the same programme - he is indeed in danger of confusing political indoctrina-



Peter Morrison Donny O'Rourke

tion and political education, and that he was himself over-reacting to "not very many" complaints.

Ever since the Task Group drew up the proposals for the YTS, which the Government adopted, it has been accepted that the all-round development of the young person should be an essential component, and that skills should be developed to meet their own needs and not just those of the employers.

Courses based on the belief that you can't educate 16-year-olds without discussing the real world have accordingly been planned in FE colleges up and down the country, approved by MSC area boards and put into operation. Some make use of materials and guidelines provided by employer organizations, many are based on packs produced by the British Youth Council which have been approved by both HMI and the DES.

Examples of these seen in this office (some of which are quoted on the School to Work page) show them to be admirably balanced attempts to provide the facts and arguments which will help young people to make up their own minds on everyday issues, and the ways they are likely to be affected by them.

They seem to be wholly in line with the aims set out by the Further Education Unit in its advice on Supporting YTS: "to provide a basis on which the

young person acquires a set of moral values applicable to issues in contemporary society"; or for example, "to bring about sufficient political and economic literacy to understand the social environment and participate in it."

That would appear to be compatible with the direction in which HMI, and indeed Sir Keith himself, have sought to influence the school curriculum. But, if Mr Morrison has his way, such political and economic literacy will be specifically excluded from the supposed educational component of off-the-job training as irrelevant matters related to the organization and functioning of society.

As the full meaning of this interpretation sinks in, it is little wonder that employers and local authorities are joining the voluntary organizations in their opposition to what amounts to a Department of Employment *diktat*.

Objections arise both in principle and practice. After the problems of interpretation come the difficulties of enforcement. How many inspectors will be needed to make sure that colleges have fallen into line? Will they be sent by the DES or the DE? Will some courses drop everything that might be slightly dodgy, just in case? Or will Mr Norman Tebbit go public on the work of some interested informer, as he has been known to do on educational issues in the past?

As to principle, Mr Morrison is not only making that facile but mistaken assumption that 16-year-olds can't spot indoctrination when they see it, but seriously impugning the professional integrity and competence of FE lecturers. And, although it might be argued that the necessary political and social literacy should have been provided in school, this is still so far from universal that it is all the more important that the least advantaged of our teenagers, who are leaving school at 16, should have the chance to continue their education in areas where it has been neglected.

If Mr Peter Morrison is not persuaded by the Manpower Services Commission, the Youth Training Board, or closer acquaintance with the courses, to modify his impulsive directive, the pressure will yet again be on Sir Keith Joseph to reassert the educational side of the partnership on training.

COMMENT

Market forces meet their Waterloo

The modifications to Kent's open enrolment scheme (page 3) suggest that one of the most worthwhile features of the experiment has been its demonstration that market forces really cannot be applied quite as easily to choice of school as to soap powder.

The complex interrelationship of quality with quantity is an altogether subtler matter when it comes to education, as some of us had suggested, that it is in privatization exercises which can safely be shaped by the cold wind of competition. More, for example, may be incompatible with good. And it could be quite unacceptable to dismiss "less" as tough luck, but the due reward for poor performance, if the net result of this is failure to provide adequate education in the terms of the 1944 Act.

Although the official gloss put out by the chief education officer and the education committee chairman cites cost as the main reason for discontinuing the supply of mobile classrooms and extra teachers to meet the demand at popular schools, the views of parents are likely to have been at least as important a factor.

It doesn't much matter whether you label the scheme vouchers, or open enrolment, or parental choice. Ex-

perience in Kent has already confirmed that few parents who have chosen a school on the basis of its reputation for quality, size or environment are likely to feel the same about it once extra lists have been packed into playgrounds and playing fields, and specialist teaching resources have been stretched.

The next step in that chain is likely to be that either the head and governors call a halt, or the school in question ceases to be the popular choice. Where in the one case the consequence is likely to be overcrowding and hasty improvisation, in the other it will almost certainly mean subjects lost from the curriculum and a general lowering of morale for several years before a school's run-down leads to closure.

These considerations apply, of course, to both popular and unpopular schools, if more than political lip-service is to be paid to parental choice. Where in the one case the consequence is likely to be overcrowding and hasty improvisation, in the other it will almost certainly mean subjects lost from the curriculum and a general lowering of morale for several years before a school's run-down leads to closure.

Kent has quite rightly drawn back from the logic of that course, for there ought to be no question of some children's education suffering over a period of years in deference to uncontrolled market forces. Kent *i.e.* a. has a duty to all its children, as indeed does Solihull, which is now proposing to make good deficiencies in some schools by providing alternatives for a minority of children, rather than improving standards for all.

The cost of sixth-form choice

It has rapidly become clear that the publication of HMI reports is often as revealing about the effects of local authority policies as about the workings of schools and colleges. So far the most glaring policy weaknesses have - perhaps not surprisingly - been shown up where there is confused provision for 16 to 19-year-olds. This week's report on Esher College, Surrey (page 14) is a prime example.

Parents and 16-year-olds in and around Esher have an enviable choice of institutions to pick from. As well as three local further education colleges - two in Surrey and one just over the border in Kingston - there is the sixth form of an 11 to 18 school down the road at Walton on Thames, and grammar school sixth-forms in Kingston.

There is also a good bit of coming and going between state and independent schools.

The report on Esher College shows the price of all this choice. Surrey, in spite of cuts in recent years, is not a notably mean authority: its estimated spending on secondary pupils this year is near the top of the counties league and compares well with some city authorities. But half-hearted and irrational provision at 16-plus means wasteful duplication of resources, and the HMI report is a catalogue of ways in which Surrey has failed to support a well-run and thriving institution.

The HMI report, now eight months out of date, does not reveal all the troubles of the college. After expanding the staff in 1981-2, it was suddenly asked to cut four teachers late last term. The cut was followed by the biggest ever intake of students this month: 50 more than last year. The Inspectorate's demand for "realism" in local authority policy, to minimize the damaging effects of fluctuating numbers, is well placed.

Clearly, muddle at Esher College is currently high enough to stand such trials. But the cost in terms of teacher time and frustration of all the fund-raising, do-it-yourself manual work, juggling of courses and staff, must tell sooner or later on the quality of provision.

The logic of this HMI report, and of earlier ones (for example on Widnes sixth-form college and on provision for 16 to 19s in Redditch) points clearly to tertiary colleges as the best, least wasteful, provision at 16 to 19. It is both expensive, and unfair on 16-year-olds, to have three kinds of institution competing with inadequate resources for students for GCE courses, business studies, RSA courses, City and Guilds, and so on.

no comment

Most teenagers do not believe that they have now or ever will have any influence in the world. They see their own future prospects as unemployment followed perhaps by nuclear war and they just give up.

Second opinion

A matter of law and order

The law on adult and continuing education places wide discretionary powers upon local authorities, allowing fees to rise to income levels, provision to suffer, and erosion of the right of the adult to further education.

As Richard Hoggart, chairman of the Advisory Council for Adult Continuing Education, declares, "it is right to be central to the well-being of people in this country. This right, this 'centrality', is quite simply endangered under current forms of legislation, while Thatcherism and a recession have exacerbated a danger that has always been less than latent."

More and more the citizen's right becomes a right only if he can afford a condition that logically negates the concept of a "right". In Britain, current expenditure on adult education by the state represents 0.5 per cent of the overall educational budget. Adult education suffers because a minority voice rather than because any philosophical justification it could relegate it to a lower status than initial education.

New legislation is, therefore, necessary to provide a comprehensive definition of adult and continuing education which will place clearly educational authorities an unequivocal duty of providing full-time, part-time education for persons in the compulsory school age.

Terms of any new legislation on adult education should consider categories of client. In particular: ● The law should be amended to guarantee minimum levels of provision in all areas. This "minimum", unlike the present "adequate" in the 1944 Education Act, should be clearly specified.

● The law should be amended to ensure that the number of adults in any area should be a strengthening of the regulations by which local authorities other than statutory bodies are entitled to financial aid. These bodies should also have minimum access to statutory bodies' resources.

● In order to ensure that a continuing education service is as good as it should be, those voluntary bodies receiving financial aid should be obliged by law to maintain accountability for the provision of the service; and

● The basic purpose of any new legislation would be to provide a framework for the provision of education to educational opportunities and this, of course, would be specific reference to such issues as credit transfer, counselling and guidance, paid educational leave and the differing roles and responsibilities of central, regional, local and institutional authorities.

All interested parties must press new legislation by applying pressure upon the DES and the Government through letters, the media, public meetings and conferences. The main thrust ought to come from the Advisory Council for Adult Continuing Education, which is in a position to deal directly with the Government. ACACE ends its term of office in October and the Government is postponing its decision on the recommended successor National Development Body.

Brian O'Hare is a senior lecturer in Newry College of Further Education, County Down, and a member of the Northern Ireland Council of Educational Research, working for the Department of Education, preparing a 10-year development plan.

Pilot experiment highlights practical limitations of 'open enrolment'

Kent back pedals on market place scheme for parental choice

by Nick Wood

The Government's policy of extending parental choice in education took a knock this week when Conservative-run Kent conceded that it could not afford to continue in its present form its controversial experiment in open enrolment, which had given some parents virtually a free hand in picking a secondary school for their children.

After a two-year trial in the West Kent and Medway areas, the authority has said it will no longer provide extra classrooms and teachers to cope with demand at popular schools, nor will it automatically close schools where intakes tumble.

Officially, the scheme is to be extended to the whole county, but in practice, with such drastic alterations, it now exists in name only, adding up to little more than a commitment to respect parental wishes in choice of school wherever possible.

But Mr Bill Pett, the chief education officer, denied that the scheme had been a "flop". By extending a modified version of open enrolment to the whole county, the authority was "formalizing" the principle of parental choice.

"It depends as always on the definition of open enrolment", he added. "My definition was allowing the numbers to increase up to the size the school had available. In the two pilot areas, Kent agreed to go beyond that and make additions to classroom accommodation, but we never made additions to all schools to meet every parent's preference."

A statement issued jointly by Mr Pett and Mr Bill McNicoll, chairman of the education committee, insisting that the scheme had been "extremely worthwhile", gave the reasons for scrapping its two key features.

The feature of the scheme that allowed a school to be expanded beyond its physical capacity by the addition of a mobile classroom, to ensure that it could take in an extra form of entry in any one year, was found to incur costs which could not be accepted for a county-wide scheme in the present financial situation.

The condition that a school falling below two forms of entry (60 pupils) in two successive years would automatically be considered for closure was clearly not appropriate for a county-wide scheme embracing a range from small village schools to very large comprehensives. It was therefore dropped.

But despite these disappointments, this week Sir Keith and Mr Stuart Sexton, his political adviser, were maintaining that something valuable had been salvaged from the Kent experiment. Sir Keith said he welcomed the county's plan to extend the modified version of the scheme to all parents and Mr Sexton said that although "open enrolment" may have been blocked by its practical limitations - cost and the fact that as popular schools grew they became progressively less attractive to parents - the scheme had been a valuable way of extending parental choice.

New move to combat crime

A wide-ranging strategy to prevent crime among young people is published this week by the Parliamentary Joint Party Group on Crime.

The report of recorded crime for those aged 14 to 16 is higher than any other age group, while the rate for the 17 to 24-year-olds is next highest. The report's recommendations include reducing the opportunity for

YTS safety standards questioned after youth dies in mine fall

by Mike Durham

The death of a 17-year-old YTS trainee at an outdoor activities centre in Cumbria has sparked concern over safety standards for school-leavers on outdoor education courses.

David Brookes, from Killingworth, North Tyneside, died after falling down a 60-foot mine shaft near High Plains Outdoor Centre, Cumbria. He was on a supervised visit to the mine as part of a five-day "character-building" residential YTS course.

This week North Tyneside Area Manpower Board of the MSC suspended all courses at outdoor centres organised by local YTS managing agents, until the centres have been inspected and approved by Area Manpower Board agents.

Mr Stephen Byers, North Tyneside education committee chairman, called for an inquiry. He said: "I hope we shall be calling on the Manpower Services Commission to set up a national register of approved outdoor education centres. At the moment there is no regulation of centres at all."

Concern over safety standards at outdoor centres - many of which run courses in potentially dangerous activities like rock climbing and caving - stems from the fact that there is no single recognised safety inspectorate.

Centres run by local education authorities, including those run by schools and colleges, are subject to inspection. But privately run, commercial or voluntary-sector activity centres do not have to meet any safety requirements laid down by statute, local authority, or government department.

With thousands of YTS trainees soon to be sent on outdoor education courses, the likelihood is that many will have to be found places in centres which have not received HMI or local authority inspection, because the number of centres run by the education service has not kept pace with demand.

Mr Byers, who is a member of the North Tyneside Area Manpower Board, said: "We know that a number of centres have sprung up overnight in response to YTS. We want to be able to assure all the parents who have youngsters on YTS schemes that they will be in safe hands."

Over the past few years, the number of outdoor activity centres in Britain has mushroomed. According to the most recent figures in 1980, 364 were run by local education authorities, but 556 outdoor pursuits centres were run independently of the education service.

Mr John Hone, secretary of the National Association for Outdoor Education, said it was difficult to apply hard and fast safety guidelines to outdoor centres - with decisions often taken at the discretion of headmaster and staff.

He added: "Private centres are not



The entrance to the old lead mine shaft at Small Cleugh, Nenthead, Cumbria, where David Brookes died when he fell 60 ft.

subject to any regulations. They may have their own individual ones, and the person in charge of each place has his own reputation to think of. It's not good publicity to lose children, after all."

"As far as I know anybody can set up their own outdoor centre and run it as they like. We are certainly interested in what goes on and whether it's done on a professional footing or in an amateurish, bungling way."

"But I would not want the 'Big Brother' approach. Most private centres operate quite safely and are pretty accident-free. I would be loath to see a mandatory inspection, although it might be necessary in some cases."

Most local education authorities follow the advice in a DES pamphlet, *Safety in Outdoor Pursuits*, which recommends high standards of equipment, instruction, and staff qualifications. Some *i.e.* have their own regulations which are even tighter.

But private centres do not have to follow DES advice. A DES spokesman explained: "As soon as you are dealing with over-16 year olds, you are not necessarily talking about schools or colleges. Safety regulations are up to whoever is organising the event."

One expert on safety at outdoor centres - who asked not to be identified for professional reasons - described the YTS schemes for school-leavers as in a "grey area".

He said: "If there is going to be an expansion of outdoor education because of YTS, then somebody needs to ensure that standards are maintained in private centres as well as *i.e.* ones. They will need to ensure

that the quality of leadership is good - either by providing their own, or by double-checking on the qualifications of the ones provided."

The accident in Cumbria happened at a centre jointly run by the YMCA and Standed Education Authority. The 48-bed centre had been booked for five days for the YTS course, sponsored by the Tyne and Wear Chamber of Commerce.

The centre's organiser, Mr Chris Jones, said that High Plains had been inspected frequently, both by local education authorities and the Manpower Services Commission. All the staff were qualified and experienced.

David Brookes is believed to have toppled over the edge of the mine shaft after his glasses fell off. The North Tyneside Area Manpower Board has carried out its own investigation, and an inquest is to be held on October 19.

An MSC spokesman said that arrangements for trainees to go on courses at outdoor centres were made locally by Managing Agents with the approval of Area Manpower Boards. It was up to local agents and boards to check on the centres.

He said: "It is much the same as deciding whether to use a particular college or employer in YTS. We send out guidance and they do the rest. We have to approve their decisions."

The spokesman added: "We are concerned that schemes should be properly run. It would be nice to see a checklist of approved schemes. But it is not up to us to improve the standards in the outdoor education industry. We can only do so much."

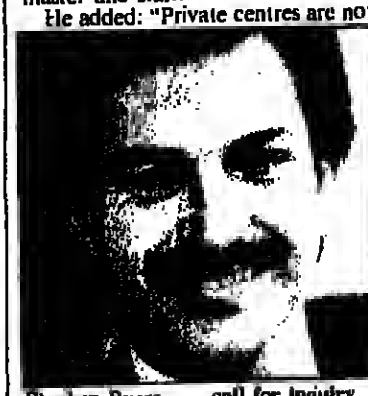
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Stephen Byers... call for inquiry. Picture: Hexham Courier

See Travel Extra page 46.

PLATFORM

David Hart argues that headteachers have been given responsibility without power and says any new methods of selection and training must take account of the increased pressures created by new legislation, accountability, falling rolls, shortage of resources, and interference from governors and politicians.

The findings of the Project on the Selection of Secondary Heads (POST) were published soon after the announcement that Government funds would be allocated for training heads and other senior staff. In his speech to the Council of Local Education Authorities Conference in July, the Education Secretary expressed the hope that the POST project will focus attention on the importance of the headteacher's role and the need to make selection procedures for heads as rigorous and reliable as possible.

I am not seeking to argue that only heads are under increased pressure. I am only too well aware of the very considerable pressures now felt by chief education officers. However, there can be no doubt that the head's role has undergone a fundamental change in a relatively short period of time.

This role has always been critical in terms of establishing the ethos of the school and its standards, whether they be academic or pastoral, but there are still too many people, inside and outside the education service, who do not appreciate fully the nature of the change. Accordingly, it is essential that we avoid falling into the trap of debating the POST project and the method by which we train our heads and senior staff on the basis of simplistic concepts such as "the head makes or breaks a school".

We all know that a head sets the tone and standards of the school and that, to quote Sir Keith Joseph, "the job is demanding and often lonely, and one that requires rare qualities of

A head's role has changed fundamentally... but too many people inside and outside the education service still fail to appreciate fully the nature of the change

resourcefulness, tact, vision, dedication and stamina". This does not, however, start to explain why heads feel that they are so often "under fire" and why, for instance, more heads than ever are seeking early retirement.

Many words have been written about accountability, but for heads, accountability flows quite simply from the fact that the head is responsible for the internal organization, management and discipline of the school. Even if one could legitimately argue that the responsibility lies elsewhere, the very nature of headship will mean that, in the eyes of the public, the head is indeed responsible.

I believe that the origins of the present pressures go back 10 years. Let us take as an example the introduction of industrial relations legisla-



Head complaints

tion which threw into sharp focus the role of management. Grievance procedures were introduced and both teaching and non-teaching staff quite legitimately sought the help of their unions in these and other procedures. Heads had to learn how to respond not only as people who might be on the receiving end of grievances but as managers of complex institutions. They had to cope with the consequences of well-defined disciplinary procedures as well as anti-discrimination legislation.

Falling rolls have also profoundly affected schools. Heads have been closely involved in redeployment procedures and the combination of falling rolls and pressures on I.E.A. resources have imposed much heavier teaching burdens on many heads and have cut into the time available to give curricular leadership and development. Falling rolls have also given real impetus to the exercise of parental preference combined with increased information flowing to parents under the 1980

Education Act. These changes occurred at the same time as a more direct governor and political involvement in schools. The role of the governing body has been highlighted by the changes brought about by the 1980 Education Act. Training schemes for governors, an acceptance of the proper balance of power that should exist between the governing body and the head.

The tendency for politicians to become more directly involved in the administration of education and in the running of schools has gathered pace. When taken to extremes, this involvement can lead to a quite unacceptable increase in demands for information, responses to reviews and evaluations, to a proliferation of surveys and to downright interference in the head's area of responsibility.

Some commentators hold the view that the head is no longer a teacher but a manager. That may be true in a

number of the larger institutions but the irony is that many heads are not only being expected to undertake a more onerous management role but are being required to increase their teaching commitment.

Pressures on resources have highlighted the role of the head as a "facilitator" and have put a premium on the skill that goes with the wise use of resources, including, above all, staffing at a time of scarcity. The morale of the teaching profession is at a fairly low ebb, whether it be as a result of resources or lack of promotion prospects and the need for heads to establish an ethos which encourages good relationships is greater than ever.

Heads are, I believe, classic examples of senior management who have responsibility without power. I.E.A.s have been too often guilty of imposing restraints and of slyly away from vesting effective and responsible decision-making at school level. This tends to make heads cynical about

demands for accountability. The "responsibility without power" syndrome means that schools are particularly vulnerable to changes in political control, whether it is at county level or at government level. It places heads in a vulnerable position in dealing with teachers and creates difficulties for schools when it comes to devising effective

Heads are classic examples of senior management who have responsibility without power... I.E.A.s have been guilty of failing to vest effective and responsible decision-making at school level

disciplinary-pastoral system. All it tends to put a premium on is "survive" until retirement, discouraging initiative.

I have for long noted that heads of independent schools can run their schools effectively and be responsible only to a governing body. They do not have to account to many conflicting sources of pressure, nor are they burdened by the bureaucracy that seems to automatically flow from administration. I.E.A.s, of course, maintained schools must be accountable ultimately to ratepayers and to the politicians elected, but I believe we must not see a system which develops more and more direct decision-making upon heads and their staffs by governing bodies.

If, as the POST project states, the selection of heads is the most important thing undertaken by I.E.A.s, then the current method of selecting heads is wholly deficient. The methods of selection and training need to take into account the head in the 1980s, the changes that have taken place in the past three years and the changes that will take place in the foreseeable future.

Industry and commerce do not always get it right but I am quite sure that their method of selecting senior management is far more thorough than the training undertaken by heads of independent schools. The working group of the Council has come to the conclusion that the proposals of the NAB officers do not necessarily reflect or exploit the achievements and strengths of the institutions valued by the CNAA. The working group has therefore decided to recommend that the Council should seek a revision of the proposals of the NAB officers, aimed at taking account of this major conclusion.

Members shared the working group's fears that the NAB plan was not sufficiently selective and would result in a shift of funds away from the major institutions and from degree-level work. A public statement of the Council's views is to be issued today.

Some of the CNAA's concerns are shared by the NAB secretariat, which has already decided to alter some of the proposals before the board discussion of the plan next month. Changes are likely in three main areas: the proportion of part-time students, the target numbers for some of the 14 programmes and the proposed new funding system.

State sector 'radically undermined'

by David Lister

The private sector education is now being subsidized by up to £30m a year, the annual conference of the Campaign for the Advancement of State Education was told last week.

Professor Richard Pring of Exeter University, who has carried out detailed research on privatization for RICE (the Right to a Comprehensive Education) told the conference in Norwich that the main danger to the state sector, particularly comprehensive schools, had been radically undermined by the pursuit of privatization.

He identified three strategies of privatization: purchasing at public expense education services in private institutions; purchasing at private expense educational services which should be free within the public system; impoverishing the maintained sector, thereby encouraging parents to select private education.

Professor Pring cites the Assisted

Places Scheme and the purchase of places by the Government for the children of those employed in the Armed Forces (mainly officers) as examples. He also cited the Youth Training Scheme, saying that increasing off-the-job education and training will be open to competitive tenders from private schemes.

"Since the YTS schemes are in effect replacing traditional FE craft and operative courses, this would amount to a privatization of an important part of the public sector's contribution to education and training 16 to 19."

He said the charitable status of independent schools meant that the schools could claim a 50 per cent rate rebate as well as hefty tax concessions. He gave the example of the Girls Public School Day Trust, a group of 23 schools which in 1981 made a profit of £1.3m, and was exempted from any form of tax.

Fund-raising to buy books and equipment was also cited by Professor Pring. Recent figures from the Educational Publishers Council on per capita spending on books included money raised by parents in the case of one authority, Somerset.

Privatization had without doubt affected teacher morale, he said. "Teachers increasingly find their work difficult in a school where vital resources depend upon private sources (unavailable in poorer areas), where energies are devoted to fund-raising rather than to teaching and where (through lack of resources) aspiring parents find it necessary to send their children to private schools, assisted in their task by public funds."

Professor Maurice Kogan, professor of government and social administration at Brunel University, pleaded for more concern about the "politics of education". Diane Spencer writes.

Without this there was no widespread debate. Policies affecting the majority of the nation's children needed to be subjected to public debate, controversy and demonstration of intentions.

Without it there could be no prediction of the consequences of either a selective or a comprehensive system. The lack of genuine politics also meant that political leaders were divorced from reality.

An example of "pressured decision making with an adequate politics is the appalling set of misguided and unreflecting policies imposed on higher education by the present Government", he said.

"Since 1981 the two Education Secretaries have taken actions which are devoid of any political sense", he said.

Buying out university teachers at great public expense would leave "many departments wonky and less capable either to teach or to research."

Last-minute hitch hits Liverpool

The end to years of deadlock over Liverpool's secondary school reorganization, recognized as top priority by the Government, could face problems after detailed plans for school closures were published this week.

Because of the crisis in the city's schools, the plans were to go straight to the full council next month after an education committee meeting this week. But at the meeting teachers' and church representatives argued that this would prevent them as co-opted members from having a say on the proposals after consultations in the coming weeks. By joining forces with Conservative and Liberal councillors the co-opted members, who make up a quarter of the committee, forced the chairman, Mr Dominic Brady, to call a special education committee before the plan goes to the full council.

Though the main principles of the proposal were published soon after Labour took control of the city in May, the implications for individual schools - its most controversial element - were only published this week.

Because the city already has over 7,000 surplus secondary places, and numbers are continuing to fall, the plan proposes cutting the number of schools from 25 to 16.

All existing county schools including 11 single sex schools and two grammar schools would close and be replaced by 16 neighbourhood co-educational comprehensives, with six for entry, and ultimately 900 places for 11 to 16 year olds.

All schools would have an open sixth-form with a minimum of 80 pupils.

NAB plans change on places policy

by John O'Leary and Karen Gold

Officials at the National Advisory Body were this week preparing important changes to their proposals for a redistribution of polytechnic and college places, as the senior partner in the exercise joined the growing band of critics of the original plan.

An all-day meeting of the Council for National Academic Awards, whose officers were consulted by the NAB secretariat in drawing up the plan, went through the proposals for each of the institutions offering its degrees. And it endorsed the views of a working group chaired by Dr Edwin Laker, chief officer of CNAA, that amendments were needed if high-quality work was not to be endangered.

A letter to colleges before the meeting said: "From such information as is available to the Council, the working group of the council has come to the conclusion that the proposals of the NAB officers do not necessarily reflect or exploit the achievements and strengths of the institutions valued by the CNAA. The working group has therefore decided to recommend that the Council should seek a revision of the proposals of the NAB officers, aimed at taking account of this major conclusion."

Members shared the working group's fears that the NAB plan was not sufficiently selective and would result in a shift of funds away from the major institutions and from degree-level work. A public statement of the Council's views is to be issued today.

Some of the CNAA's concerns are shared by the NAB secretariat, which has already decided to alter some of the proposals before the board discussion of the plan next month. Changes are likely in three main areas: the proportion of part-time students, the target numbers for some of the 14 programmes and the proposed new funding system.

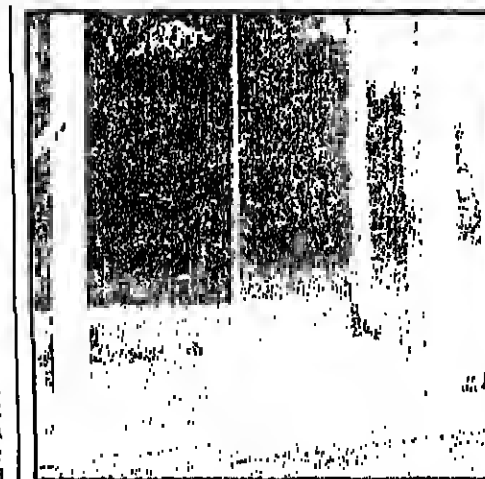
The proposed six per cent increase in part-time students is now thought difficult to achieve following the receipt of comments from the institutions on the proposals. Colleges have been told that they can vary the split between degree and sub-degree work in their part-time provision, but a reduction of up to 2,000 full-time equivalent places may still be required if targets are to be realistic.

Further options for a new funding system, including an increased weighting for degree work, had already been ordered by the NAB board. Although it will be politically difficult to give colleges less money than the provisional allocation indicated in the plan, there is widespread dissatisfaction with the outcome of the system presently proposed and some redistribution in favour of the polytechnics is certain.

Three programme areas are also causing concern. The secretariat is under pressure to increase the number of in-service teacher training students in its plan, although doubts remain about the willingness of education authorities to release more teachers for courses.

In addition, there may be a reconsideration of numbers in the visual and performing arts, where the Secretary of State's designation of DATEC courses was taken to be inalterable. Student numbers were boosted beyond the point that the secretariat would otherwise have proposed and some reduction may be sought.

Pressure for a rethinking of the shift of work away from London and the south-east will be accommodated if Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, accepts the NAB committee's plan for more money next year. Any new money would be channelled into the area, which has the largest concentration of polytechnics. THES



The growing number of incidents involving young children, and the increasing substance of bullying outside school hours prompted the Norfolk Village of Mattishall to come up with its own deterrent two years ago. Parents decided to put these bright orange signs in their windows so that a child in distress would know where to seek help. Applicants to join the scheme are checked by police to ensure their suitability, and there are 60 such houses in the village, which now has very little trouble.

Testing time for cleaners

Merton I.E.A. has given Academy Cleaning Services, the private firm that took over school cleaning in the borough this term, 14 days to show that they can do the job properly. A joint statement issued by the authority and the company this week after a crisis meeting referred to Merton's "dissatisfaction with cleaning standards in many schools". The company has agreed to take on an extra 55 staff and to pay its employees more.

ILEA censures rate curbs

The Inner London Education Authority's education committee this week voted unanimously to censure the Government's White Paper aimed at curbing high rate demands. Although ILEA is Labour controlled, some of the committee's 14 Tory members must have voted for the resolution, said an authority spokesman.

Solihull plans 11-16 grammar schools

More details have emerged about Solihull's controversial plans to bring back grammar schools and their implications for the Government's narrowing list of options for finding ways of extending parental choice in education.

As The TES went to press, the education committee was meeting to discuss a report on the feasibility of setting up one, possibly two, 11 to 16 grammar schools in the district. Under proposals expected to be approved by a Tory-controlled authority, the top 10 or 15 per cent of the ability range would be taken into a new-looking selective system feeding Solihull's 1000-pupil sixth-form college.

Two popular comprehensives, Tudor Grange, which in its grammar school days was attended by Mr Michael Ellis, chairman of the education committee and the architect of the current plans, and Arden, are tipped for grammar school status.

Solihull's move has fuelled speculation that other Conservative-controlled authorities, shorn of grammar schools and faced with reorganizing their secondary systems because of falling rolls, might also be thinking of going back to selection.

This week, Mr Stuart Sexton, Sir Keith Joseph's political adviser, who has told Mr Ellis that Solihull will meet no central political opposition to

its plans, said that six Tory authorities, divided evenly between the north and south, boroughs and shires, had contacted him to say they were taking a keen interest in the proposals.

But Tory leaders in authorities believed to be thinking along these lines are lukewarm about jumping on a selection bandwagon.

Meanwhile the right wing Centre for Policy Studies, set up by Mrs Thatcher and Sir Keith in the mid-70s, condemned the agnosticism of many Tory authorities towards the reintroduction of selection.

It urged Sir Keith to instruct Conservative I.E.A.s to bring back grammar schools.

NEWS

Plight of the teenage mothers

by Hilary Wilce

Tens of thousands of unplanned schoolgirl pregnancies could be avoided by improving education about birth control, according to a new report on the problems of teenage motherhood.

Better contraceptive education is one of the main recommendations of the report, which says that a significant number of girls use contraception but give it up, even though they do not wish to become pregnant.

In one study of 90 teenage mothers, 41 had either given up using contraception or were using it erratically. Of these, 25 reported that they had been taking the pill but had given it up for a variety of reasons. Fourteen girls said they used other methods at times. It is this group of "experienced" contraceptors that could benefit particularly from improved education

about birth control, the report says. About two-thirds of teenage pregnancies are unplanned - 40,000 births in 1980. In addition, about 36,000 abortions a year involve teenagers.

Overall, the number of births to girls under 20 rose slightly from 1978 to 1980 when it stood at 60,750. However this is still well below the 1971 peak when 82,641 babies were born to girls between 15 and 19.

The report notes that although in 1980 one live birth in every 10 was to a teenage mother, this is still a small proportion given that six out of 10 girls report having been sexually active by the time they reached 19.

Yet teenage motherhood can be linked to a variety of other problems, the report points out.

The newborn of young mothers are more likely to be lighter at birth than those of older women, to die of complications of prematurity, to be inadequately immunized, to be admitted to hospital for gastroenteritis, to suffer accidental injury and in experience developmental problems," the report says.

"For the mothers, who are themselves generally underprivileged in terms of social class and educational achievement, there is subsequently a raised likelihood of further reproduction, domestic instability, inadequate support from partners as well as negligible opportunity for social or economic betterment."

Teenage Mother by Nicholas Wells, published by the Children's Research Fund, 6 Castle Street, Liverpool.



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ILEA seeks asbestos aid

by Jane Pickard

The Inner London Education Authority has asked the Department of Education to contribute £5m towards the cost of removing asbestos from the capital's schools.

The request is attached to the ILEA's annual application for funding and is being seen as a test case which could have immense financial implications for the Government. Some experts believe it would cost thousands of millions of pounds to make every public building safe from the deadly asbestos dust.

In the ILEA area alone, officials have estimated that around £50m could be needed to survey and make safe schools and other authority build-

ings during the next few years. The authority has already spent £4.5m since 1977 and during the summer holidays carried out nearly 100 asbestos-removal projects. But from January, it will be undertaking a survey of all its buildings in the light of the new Health and Safety Executive guidelines on mounting public concern about asbestos.

The HSE last month halved the legal safety level for white asbestos to 0.5 fibres in each millilitre of air, and there is a possibility of further reductions. As a result, several unions, including the National Union of Teachers, are campaigning, along with the Council of Local Educational Authorities and

other bodies, to persuade the Government to fast-track the bill for asbestos surveys and removal in public buildings.

They point out that survey work alone is expensive. Air tests have to be taken and processed, and samples of the material itself often have to be analysed. Then the asbestos has to be either sealed or removed.

The ILEA is now talking to its unions about setting up an asbestos removal unit in its own direct labour force to give it greater control over the work. It has also produced leaflets for staff and parents and has a joint working party with the GLC and unions to review and update its policy.



Barbican debut... John Taylor from Phyllis School, London, is seen rehearsing with the London Schools Symphony Orchestra, which gave a concert in the Barbican Hall recently. Two leading composers conducted their own works - Paul Patterson with his *Reception Pass* and *Concerto for Orchestra* and the eminent 70-year-old Polish musician Witold Lutoslawski, who led the orchestra through his *Concerto*. The concert launched the first "ILEA Barbican" festival of music, drama, dance and the visual arts to be presented more than 500 pupils and students of London schools, adult institutions and colleges. The 87 members of the orchestra, whose ages range from 10 to 18, worked with Lutoslawski and Patterson on their pre-concert holiday. Their leader is Samantha Reagan, an 18-year-old pupil of Haverdham Girls' School in Lewisham.

200 research jobs to go in budget cutback

More than 200 jobs are to be lost as a result of a £3m-in-year cut in research councils' budgets.

Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, approved the cut which was recommended by a review committee that has spent a year examining the support services for four of the five research councils - Agriculture, Medicine, Natural Environment, and Science and Engineering.

The Social Science Research Council was not included because it does not maintain its own research establishments. The review examined spending of about £10m a year and the work of 1,190 staff, and concluded that savings could be made in five areas: stores, purchasing, estate management, workshops and library services. These could result in total savings of £3.3m a year and 211 jobs. An immediate £3.3m saving could also be achieved by reorganizing stores and reducing stocks, and by the sale of property.

The review team also concluded that there should be:
☐ An examination of controls on the cost of support services;
☐ Economies through more managerial co-operation between institutes and units within the councils, for example, in common purchasing of laboratory supplies.

Merger dropped

Controversial plans for a merger between Sutton College of Liberal Arts and Carshalton College of Further Education have been dropped by the education committee of the London Borough of Sutton. Governors of the SCOLA voted earlier this month to oppose the merger.

BBC to transmit software to home computers

by Carolyn O'Grady

Owners of a BBC micro will soon be able to receive software transmitted by the BBC directly into the memory of their computer, that is if they are willing to pay £225 for the necessary teletext adaptor.

The adaptors, say Acorn Computers, the manufacturers, will be available in November. The software will be mainly educational and some will be designed to accompany schools television series, say the BBC.

The BBC are to transmit between six and eight programs at any one time which will be changed every two weeks. The programs will come mainly from the Microelectronics Education Programme and a Brighton Polytechnic project and will be free. Many of the programs available on the teletext service, which is an extension of the BBC's teletext service will interact with CEEFAX pages.

The system will inevitably be compared with the Prestel teletext service which is undergoing trials in schools. This transmits information and software along the telephone lines.

The BBC system is a much more limited affair than the Prestel service: 500-600 pages compared with about 250,000 are available and the Prestel service can also transmit a far greater number of computer programs. Against this, programs on the BBC service are free, while subscribers to Prestel have to pay a quarterly charge of about £13 and the price of phone calls to the service. There is also a charge for using some pages.

However, the Department of Industry may announce that it will give schools a grant for the Prestel equipment and charges as part of the continuing micro-in-schools scheme later this year.

One of the first BBC series to have accompanying teletext pages will be Science Topics, a science series for 14-17 year olds.

Only half of probationers take induction courses

by Bert Lodge

Almost one-quarter of newly qualified teachers from Oxford and Cambridge go into independent schools, according to research findings. And despite extensive government projects in the 1970s, only about a half of newly-qualified teachers go on induction courses.

In a survey of probationers, 14 per cent of those who taught in primary schools had no special training for such work. At the same time 20 per cent of those who had primary training were still looking for a job at the end of the first year.

The survey of teachers who were completing their probationary year in 1981 covered more than 2,000 newly-qualified teachers who had completed the postgraduate certificate of education courses in university departments the previous year.

Details of the survey were given to a conference of teacher trainers in Oxford last weekend, arranged by the research team from Leicester University School of Education and the Department of Education and Science.

Nearly 25 per cent of those graduating from the oldest universities went into independent schools, the survey found. Yet these were the schools in

which newly qualified teachers least likely to receive help from staff in their first year.

Another area inflicting little help on beginners was further education. Most help in their first year experienced by primary teachers, P.T. staff.

Miss Helen Patrick, a member of the research team led by Professor Gerald Himmelman, said that about half of probationers went on induction courses. She pointed out that this was not much of an improvement on the position 10 years ago when only one third did so.

One of the most common complaints from the newly qualified was that they had received no preparation on their courses for teaching examinations. They would probably have liked to have been given examples of model answers.

Mr Robert Dunn, education officer, continued to the conference that the national scholarship scheme for priority teachers would be continued after the end of this year. It was a pilot project two years ago the tax-free £500 had not attracted graduates into teaching, shortening subjects of mathematics and science.

Thames makes 'no atrocities' disclaimer

Thames Television is to transmit a disclaimer before performances at schools play. A *Game of Solitaire* stating that the events in the play are fictitious, but the company denies this has been done under pressure from the Ministry of Defence or any other body. The three part play will be shown next Thursday.

A Thames spokesman said that Bryan Cowgill, managing director, had received a letter from the Falkland Islands Office asking for an announcement be made at the beginning of the play that no atrocities were committed by the islanders during the Falklands conflict.

"We immediately and unhesitatingly agreed to preface transmissions with a statement making it clear that the play was fictitious and not factual," said.

An MoD spokesman said that matter was still being considered. Review, page 31.

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CRESO

Nick Wood reports from the National Association of Inspectors and Educational Advisers conference in Winchester

Downgrading fears dismissed

Fears among local authority inspectors and advisers that they will be downgraded as junior partners of Her Majesty's Inspectorate were dismissed at the NAIEA conference last week.

Concern has been most recently voiced by Mr John Pearce, senior adviser for Cambridge. Writing in *Education* he urged I.e.s. to clarify the role of their inspectors and advisers and to define the extent to which they should concentrate on taking corrective action in schools as a result of critical HMI reports or central initiatives calling on authorities to weed out unsatisfactory teachers.

"The room for manoeuvre that I.e.s. used to have in finding acceptable berths of unsatisfactory teachers or heads has long disappeared, and inspectors will be more and more involved, either remedially or in a disciplinary way," he said.

Without a re-examination of the inspector's job, "I.e.s. staffs will become the rank and file with HMI as the officers, and most HMI inspectors I



Sheila Browne... work together know would view that with as much distaste as most I.e.s. inspectors," Mr Pearce warned.

However Miss Sheila Browne, outgoing senior chief inspector of HMI, assured delegates that the Inspecto-

ry and local inspectors were "complementary", providing reciprocal services to one another. Both parties could inform and assist the work of the other.

The proposed talks between the Government and the local authority associations about the future role of I.e.s. advisers and their relationship with HMI should not be taken as implying they were destined to play a "subsidiary" or "supplementary" part in the task of monitoring the performance of schools and giving advice where needed, Miss Browne said.

Teamwork rather than the special pleading of the subject adviser, was the key to educational advance, she added.

Major policy objectives, such as raising standards, eradicating inequalities and creating a more practical curriculum, demanded a broad approach at local level.

"With expenditure constraints at the moment, one does always, as a specialist adviser, have to remember that when you say performance could

be better if only we had X, Y or Z, it might be that extra expenditure... may be at the expense of something else."

I.e.s. advisers and inspectors were the "oil in the educational system", Miss Browne explained. Among their many tasks, encouraging good practice should take precedence over curative action.

Their chief job was to "prime the pump" in five key areas. They should:

- Create a thirst for analytical knowledge about the educational system;
- Convey a generous appreciation of pupils' achievements and keep the definition of the curriculum "realistic, modern and enabling";
- Foster a sense of the wholeness of the educational system;
- Create an awareness of how money works in education and how the different forms of education expenditure inter-related; and
- Promote a better understanding of the professionalism of teachers, and how this can be kept in top condition.

People

Administrative appointments:

Mr John Turnbull, at present deputy director of education for Leicestershire, is to be county education officer for Hereford and Worcester. He takes up his appointment on January 1. Sir Rex Richards is to be director of the Leverhulme Trust when Ronald Tress retires on January 1985. Sir Rex, who is 60, has been warden of Merton College, Oxford since 1969 and chancellor of Exeter University since 1982.

Dr David Ingram, vice-chancellor of the University of Kent, is to be member of the Council for National Academic Awards. Mr David Glencross becomes director of television at the Independent Broadcasting Authority from next month.

Mr John Coleman is to be legal adviser to the Department of Education and Science. He is at present a principal assistant solicitor at the Department of Trade and Industry. Ms Sylvia Parry has been elected vice-president of the International Union of Socialist Teachers in 1983. International Conference Bruges. Ms Parry teaches in education in Sheffield. Professor Richard Norman, didactic adviser to the Ministry of Defence, and Professor Derek Coates, professor of high energy physics at Birmingham University, have been appointed to the Science and Engineering Research Council.

School appointments:

The following have been appointed heads of Manchester primary schools: Mr Roy Tomkinson - All Saints Primary School, West Oxford; Mr Ian Drinkwater - Armitage Church of England School, Ardwick; Mr Thomas Tudor - The School of the Resurrection (Parish of the Holy Shepherd), Bewick; Mrs Jane Lee - Charlton Junior and Infant School; Mrs Jean Pattemore - Lane Junior and Infant School; Mrs Mary Bransford - Greenfield Junior and Infant School; Mrs Eric Bowyer - Medlock Junior and Infant School, Chorlton-on-Medlock; Mr Ian Smith - Ravensbury Junior and Infant School, Clayton; Mr David Coffey - St Ignace Roman Catholic Junior and Infant School, Chorlton; Mr Paul Bell - St Joseph Roman Catholic Junior and Infant School, Longsight; Mrs Joan Jones - St Luke's Church of England Junior and Infant School, Longsight; Mr Allan Reed - St Oswald with St James Church of England Primary School, Cullyhurst; Miss Kathleen Day (Mother Monica) - St Patrick's Roman Catholic Junior and Infant School, Ancoats; Mr Paul McCarthy - Wilfrid's Roman Catholic Junior and Infant School, Hulme; and Mr David Davenport - Woodhouse Park Junior and Infant School, Wythenshawe. Mr P. R. Perdue, head of Ormsley High School, is to be head of Ormsley High School.

Mr Ian Warburton (pictured) is new head of New Woodlands school, Bromley, Kent. College appointments: Professor Eric Sunderland, principal and head of anthropology at the University of Durham, has been appointed principal of the University College of North Wales, Bangor, October 1, 1984. Professor Professor Claire Palfrey, professor of Law at the University of Kent, has succeeded Mrs N. K. Trevelyan as principal of St Anne's College, Oxford, from September 1984.

Welsh as sole medium on increase in class

"Phenomenal growth in the number of schools that use Welsh as the sole medium of teaching is reversing the historic decline in the language, the conference was told.

Progress is most marked in the Anglicized areas of the country in the south and among the tourist resorts in the northern coast. Over the past 30 years, the number of Welsh-only schools has jumped from 1 to 15 (18 by next year) at secondary level and from 7 to 61 at primary.

About 20,000 youngsters, split evenly between the two tiers, are now being taught in Welsh.

Mr Keith Davies, NAIEA president and chief adviser for Mid-Glamorgan,



Keith Davies... reversing decline

said: "The result is that the percentage of the 5-10 age group deemed by headteachers to be fluent Welsh speakers is now increasing, not in the same dramatic fashion as the decline (which saw the proportion of adult Welsh speakers fall from one in 2 in 1901 to under 1 in 5 in 1981) but nonetheless a continuing increase - a welcome success story in education."

Across the country, approaching 1 in 6 primary children are now fluent in Welsh, he added.

But the move posed a "considerable challenge" to the advisers and teachers in the Principality. "There is a grave shortage of teachers suitably fluent in Welsh to teach all subjects at both primary and secondary level," Mr Davies said.

"Even when they exist it is extremely unlikely that they would have received their training through the medium of Welsh. Being able to speak Welsh fluently and being able to teach through the medium of Welsh, children who come from an English environment, is not the same thing."

Quoting figures from three Welsh-speaking comprehensive schools showing that, on average, under 2 teachers applied for each of the 44 jobs offered over 18 months, Mr Davies said that there is a "critical" problem in finding Welsh-speaking teachers for the shortage subjects of maths, science, English, business studies and CDT. Difficulties are compounded by the lack of Welsh language textbooks.

Bring in fringe subjects - plea to comprehensives

Comprehensives should face up to their duty to equip children for adult life by dropping many of their traditional academic subjects and replacing them with controversial, so-called fringe subjects, such as political and health education, delegates heard.

Only by such radical action could schools fulfil their clear responsibility to help youngsters avoid the misery of alcoholism, divorce and mental breakdown later.

Mr Peter Cornall, senior inspector for Cornwall, called for an urgent reappraisal of the way schools construct their timetables.

They should recognize the "comprehensive facts of life" - that more than two-thirds of pupils have IQs between 85 and 115 - and use this as the launching pad for curriculum reform.

"We must build outwards from the centre, viewing the modifications we make for the minorities (the most able and the least) - both highly important - as enhancements and never as alternatives."

It was time to end piecemeal attempts at curriculum reform. "Many of us decalved ourselves into believing that new demands, some of them of almost desperate social urgency, could be assimilated here and there in the curriculum through merely a token adjustment of syllabus," said Mr Cornall.

"I no longer believe that such a solution can match the necessity, what may have seemed 'desirable' 10 years ago, is now of critical urgency." He called for swift action to ensure these subjects were on the timetable: political education, embracing local,

national and global issues; social, economic and environmental themes at every level, which seem daily less and less separate from politics, and from each other.

Mr Cornall said these issues stood "awkwardly outside the privileged company of the hallowed and authenticated curriculum". Schools should work for something better than "mending and making do".

Such changes would require a fundamental shift in the attitudes of secondary teachers towards their subjects. No longer should they assume that they had a "career-long right" to teach the subject in which they had trained and qualified.

Instead, they should learn from their colleagues in the primary sector - the home of much good comprehensive practice with its mixed-ability settings and cross-curricular approach to learning - and come to regard their subject as a "resource" for their contribution to the new-style curriculum.

"The commonly-held view of specialization in teaching as a walled castle, rather than a base camp, must be undermined."

Mr Cornall outlined how his ideas would work in the final two years of compulsory schooling. Equal time would be given to eight core subjects: English, mathematics, core science, core social studies, personal development, European language and life, physical education and a creative choice. These would be augmented by two options chosen from extension science, extension social studies and a list of creative activities. There would also be scope to take a second foreign language.

ACACE successor demanded

A further demand for a successor body to the Advisory Council for Adult and Continuing Education was made by Dr Richard Hoggart, chairman of the council, in its fourth, and final, annual report, published this week.

In his preface, Dr Hoggart says: "We need a new national body, with a firmer and longer life than the present council, with a development as well as an advisory brief."

"Any rejection of this in favour of a succession of individual initiatives directed from the Department of

Education and Science, would not be an adequate alternative."

The council stated a strong case for a national development body earlier this year as its own brief ends in October. Announcements about a successor have been expected since early summer.

"Sir Keith Joseph Education Secretary and Mr Nicholas Edwards, Welsh Education Minister say they will be giving an answer later this year."

Fourth annual report of ACACE, HMSO £3.75.

THE TIMES Educational Supplement

COLLINS DICTIONARIES

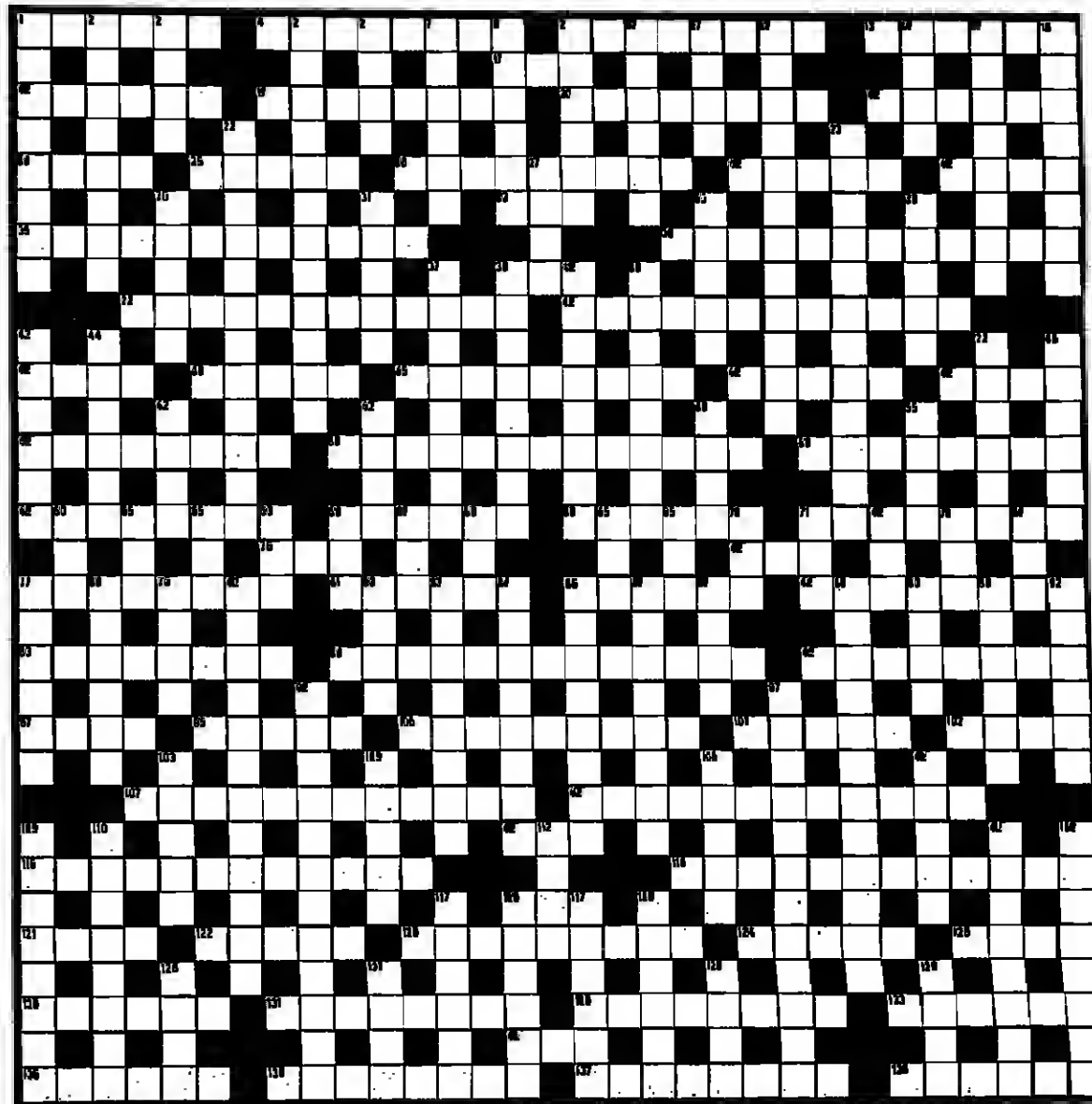
SCHOOL STAFFROOM CROSSWORD COMPETITION

The Times Educational Supplement and Collins Dictionaries invite entries from School Staffrooms. There are over 50 prizes to be won. The competition is also open to other readers of The TES. Non-members of a school staff should sponsor a school of their choice to be the recipient of any prize. The winning entries will be the first correct solutions opened from those submitted in the next most nearly correct. All entries should be accompanied by the official entry form to be found in the September 23

issue of The TES or on the Collins Dictionaries leaflet mailed to secondary schools (100 photocopies). The solution to the puzzle and the names of the winning schools will be announced in The TES on November 11. No employees, or their relatives, of The Times Supplement or William Collins Sons & Co Ltd are eligible to enter. Send your entry to Collins Publishers (TES/Collins Competition), PO Box, Glasgow G4 0NB, postmarked not later than Friday October 21.

ACROSS

- 1 Cavalryman turning back without asking about us (6)
- 4 It was held up when the weather's bad (3)
- 9 Turning point in worldly affairs (8)
- 13 Pupil being punished for a glaring mistake? (6)
- 17 Number sent back to bed (3)
- 18 Songs the first violinist heard? (6)
- 19 Revolutionary paper money (8)
- 20 Defeat makes no difference to mum or dad (8)
- 21 Principles said to be found in manuscript form (6)
- 24 Plant where workers strike for more money (6)
- 25 Out-moded description of St Peter's, for example (5)
- 26 Walk on the patients, but does them a bad turn (6,3)
- 28 A mass withdrawal on the Indian border (5)
- 29 A duck egg blue (4)
- 32 Impressive measures (3)
- 35 The classroom is unity - and he's responsible (12)
- 36 Plant to give scope to people in the arts (12)
- 38 A pound note gets you a drink (3)
- 41 A trip out of town (7,5)
- 42 It barrier? (5,2,5)
- 43 Spell it out to me (4)
- 44 Chuffy American painter, we hear (5)
- 49 In which madam may get a role after a scramble (9)
- 50 Tour right round a market town (5)
- 51 Error the potter has to cover? (4)
- 56 It's clear the girl has a cute wiggle (8)
- 57 Phenomenal example of growth (5,2,6)
- 58 Changed class in a rush (3)
- 59 Spy a curly hair on the rug? (4,4)
- 64 The palm is seen in this essay (6)
- 67 My note is about the first form (6)
- 71 Said and done in making a complaint (8)
- 75 Ring us back about a trifling sum of foreign money (3)
- 76 Dismissed when on strike (3)
- 77 An example of bad language (8)
- 78 Welsh town once ruined by our railways (6)
- 85 Took to arms (6)
- 86 Train or coaches (8)
- 87 It comes under general arithmetic (8)
- 91 It helps people to get their bearings (7,4)
- 95 Element may be Athenian in any case (8)
- 98 Bear right in America (4)
- 99 Book a strong man (5)
- 100 She overrated a famous philosopher (9)
- 101 Such music is not bound to sell (5)
- 102 Story with a twist? (4)
- 103 Words that sound suggestive (12)
- 104 Dramatist translating learned works (6)
- 111 She vase? (3)
- 115 Physical training manual? (8,4)
- 116 New general takes his troops way back - but they're blown up (12)
- 118 The schoolmaster's usual address (3)
- 121 A good likeness (4)
- 122 Botted spirit (5)
- 123 Formality may be unpolite (9)
- 124 Tapestry in France (5)
- 125 Notice, Tory is put out (4)
- 126 It is suspended when it is very cold (6)
- 127 Class of good scholars (8)
- 128 Started on the green and accelerated away (5,3)
- 129 One in the biology class is very bright (6)
- 130 I saw the earth for the sun (3)
- 131 Close, a dubby close in fact (6)
- 132 A grub began: part of small size (8)
- 133 A burrow otherwise concealed by a wall (8)
- 134 Old character in our firm is an engineer (10)



OVER £3000 WORTH OF PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

6 1st prizes of books to the value of £150

10 2nd prizes of books to the value of £100

15 3rd prizes of books to the value of £75

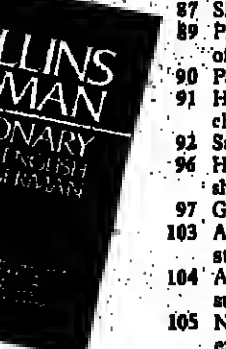
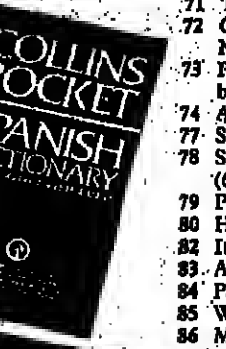
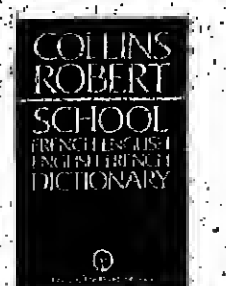
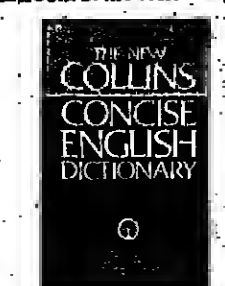
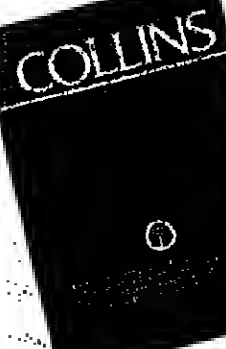
20 emulsion prizes of one copy of the New Collins Concise English Dictionary (£7.95)

1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes may be taken as books for the school library selected from the Collins Catalogue or as cash sets of the following:

£4.95 Collins/Robert School French Dictionary (25 copies rate at £100)

£4.50 Collins Pocket English Dictionary (20 copies rate at £75)

A draw will be made from the names of all the 51 prize-winning schools and the staffroom of the school draws will receive a case of sherry.



DOWN

- 1 Position of respect on the staff (4-4)
- 2 Arm on the leg (5-3)
- 3 Pins of revolvers? (4)
- 5 Skilful manoeuvre once used to discipline pupils? (12)
- 6 Never-ending trouble for a bird (4)
- 7 Surgeon's paper knife (6)
- 8 The voice of the deer (6)
- 9 The force of emphasis (6)
- 10 Winning smash volley (6)
- 11 Old town subject to inflation (4)
- 12 For which one needs to be in fighting form? (5,7)
- 14 Stygian fare (4)
- 15 A number making a living in education (8)
- 16 Not still lacking support (8)
- 22 Public agent employed by mathematicians (6,6)
- 23 A mild expletive before one's principal? Show shame (4,4,4)
- 27 Foreigner raises fruit (4)
- 30 Come out with me again and have a drink (5)
- 31 They may be strung up by the neck (5)
- 32 Sources of power on American football fields (5)
- 34 Free from fault (5)
- 37 Protective headgear for going on henders? (8)
- 38 They distribute by air (8)
- 39 Part friends? (8)
- 40 School subject that may appear grey to me (8)
- 43 Master-switch for the current (6)
- 44 Mutual arrangement with German letter (6)
- 45 Pupils of the past (6)
- 46 Passed shuffled cards (6)
- 52 Badly hurt widow who married a wealthy farmer (4)
- 53 A way through on foot (4)
- 54 The ship that's short of freight (4)
- 55 A warning wind (4)
- 60 A party activity (3)
- 61 Variety of pea that's a good climber (3)
- 62 Some Italian name - or Arabian name (3)
- 63 I'm to take direction in a doctrine (3)
- 64 It floats, but overturns (3)
- 65 Note the old-fashioned watch (3)
- 66 Bio-chemistry for a tribesman (3)
- 69 Written about (3)
- 69 Stick around for a drink, perhaps (3)
- 70 Agree it's put on upside-down (3)
- 71 Took down a note (3)
- 72 One may see one in the museum of Natural History (3)
- 73 Parts of a clutch that can easily be broken (3)
- 74 A fatal cast (3)
- 77 Sun I do wrongly in elementary (6)
- 78 She have a wisp round that's generous (6)
- 79 Play group (4)
- 80 He's in charge of the school play (12)
- 82 It features in botany and arithmetic (4)
- 83 A clergyman may be dressed (8)
- 84 Patching battered headgear (8)
- 85 Worst type of street demonstrator? (8)
- 86 Mean to be understanding (8)
- 87 She has a timely association with Pip (4)
- 89 Pilot's warning when landing gear's out of order (6,6)
- 90 Pass for a mere youngster (4)
- 91 Hammer thrower has a number on his chest (6)
- 92 Saw off the tongue (6)
- 94 Harvard graduate shows hypocrisy on a ship to a Scotlands (12)
- 97 Gets proof, this was broadcast (5,1,6)
- 103 An tinnings by which the visitors hope to attract attention (5)
- 104 Ardele written about the professional sage, perhaps (5)
- 105 Number is a state of serves fall an examination (5)
- 106 Wide smiles give support (5)
- 109 One girl I converted to the faith (8)
- 110 Maiden over I can get out in (8)
- 112 An entrance I'd turn in at (4)
- 113 Poem done in my head (8)
- 114 Marriage or adoption (8)
- 117 Fictitious time for the violinist or tuba player (5)
- 118 A 92-across of the church (6)
- 119 It may be used to sort out a difficult problem (6)
- 120 Wrapper for a book Kipling wrote on love (6)
- 126 New taba block (4)
- 127 Network of broken borders (4)
- 128 Period showing style (4)
- 129 They are timid, yet pipe up (4)

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

School:

Address:

Name of Contact at School/school sponsor:

JUMBO CRYPTIC CROSSWORD FOR TES-COLLINS compiled by RUFUS

Hilary Wilce reports on new attempts to encourage girls to specialize in science and technology

Engineering still a male domain

Some schools still actively discourage girls from taking up careers in engineering. Many others allow boys to dominate workshop facilities and give poor careers advice.

A new research bulletin published yesterday highlights just how far schools and colleges have to go to provide equal opportunities in engineering.

It contains reports of schools which have stopped former pupils giving talks on their engineering careers, and of craft design and technology teachers with clearly differing expectations of boys and girls.

Overall the stark message of the research is that most women in engineering are in clerical or unskilled jobs, and that these are the jobs most threatened by new technology.

Meanwhile, women are missing out on new job opportunities by not having the necessary skills or training, and girls are not getting the encouragement and counselling at school that would persuade them into such careers.

The bulletin, from the Equal Opportunities Commission, comes as the EOC has announced a major new initiative with the Engineering Council.

A 12-month campaign - called WISE, women into science and engineering - starts in January and will involve schools, employers, and public and professional bodies. About £17,000 will be spent this financial year, on such things as a national magazine, advertising, posters and information packs.

The EOC will be writing shortly to L.E.A.s and schools asking what is being done to encourage girls in this area.

The EOC's new chairman, Baroness Platt, was an aeronautical engineer before her marriage and is a member of the Engineering Council.

A plethora of statistics underline the pioneering work of one county in trying to build up the confidence of girls towards crafts and technology has now been made available to other local authorities.

Last March 24 girls from 12 Shropshire schools attended a confidence-building course in Telford, and the experience of planning and mounting this has been detailed in a booklet designed as a guide for others.

Over five days the girls learned to handle heavy machinery, computers and other electronic equipment. They saw films and heard from women who had broken new ground in their careers.

The course, which was backed by the Schools Council, aimed to show girls they were quite capable of handling machinery and highlighted the



Recent evidence suggests that single-sex schools are more likely to produce female engineers.

women's poor showing in engineering. Ninety four per cent of women in the industry are employed as operators, clerical staff and unskilled workers. Hardly surprising given that, in 1980, more than 80 per cent of A level passes in physics and more than 75 per cent of passes in mathematics were awarded to boys.

A study in the EOC's research bulletin, *Women in Engineering*, which examines how 85 young women came to train as engineering technicians, points out that while most of them got their job information either from schools or the Careers Advisory Service, many reported that their teachers and advisers had attempted to discourage them by saying engineering was too difficult or dirty for girls.

Almost half the trainees wished they had done craft and technical subjects at school, seeing them as a good introduction to handling practical tasks and to engineering in general. Most said they had not done so because facilities were unavailable, but a few reported discrimination in

their schools.

Several girls said their schools had refused to let them return to school to talk about their jobs claiming that other pupils would not be interested. "A career in engineering did not appear to fit with the school's image of a successful 'old girl'," Ms Peggy Newton, the study's author, notes.

Another report indicates that the potential woman engineer is likely to come from a single sex grammar or independent school and to have received significant encouragement from teachers.

Of a sample of 674 17-year-old girls who applied to attend the Engineering Industry Training Board Insight programme in 1981, 39 per cent attended single sex schools, compared with the national figure of 22 per cent.

As the authors, Ms Newton and Ms Helen Weinreich-Haste, point out: "This again raises the question about single sex schools and girls' achievements in science and technology: how far is the lack of sex stereotyping of school subjects, which is demonstrated to be greater in mixed schools,

an important factor in helping girls to decide to enter non-traditional fields?"

Meanwhile what can schools do to encourage girl pupils?

The Girls Into Science and Technology project, the Manchester-based action research project which has been working with 2,000 pupils since 1982, is probably the best-known work in this field.

No conclusions can yet be drawn from its work, but Ms Barbara Smail and Ms Judith Whyte suggest in this bulletin that both boys and girls should learn about the social and industrial applications of science in the lower school, and the links between applied science, technology, and craft design and technology.

A common crafts syllabus for the first three years of secondary schooling would help to prevent pupils plumping for traditional options, they suggest, and both careers advice and in-service training need to be improved.

One crucial finding is that staff in mixed schools should do more to ensure girls get access to laboratory and workshop equipment.

The researchers report one incident where pupils were experimenting with the heating of carboxylic acids. The teacher told the class that one person in each group should put on safety goggles to do the experiment. Within minutes all the boys in the class had a pair of goggles, but the girls had failed to secure any.

The teacher, a probationer, later said he had not realized the implications of the incident until they were pointed out to him. He had simply assumed that boys were keener than the girls.

EOC's Seventh Research Bulletin, free from Publicity Section, EOC, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN.

girls were marvellous."

However he said that despite an official county policy of giving all girls workshop experience up to the third year of secondary schooling, 60 per cent of girl pupils were reaching the third year without ever having used a lathe.

Another lesson was the strength of the barriers in change put up by parents and schools, he said. Shropshire plans a follow-up course next year, and hopes to set up regional groups to run courses throughout the county after that.

Future Girls, available from Mr K Brown, County Adviser for CDT, Shropshire Education Committee, Education Office, The Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury SY2 6ND. Price 20p.

Micros on the woodwork bench

An East London girls' school is forging new links between its science and technology teaching in a drive to improve skills and open up career opportunities.

Haggerston School, a small comprehensive with a mixed catchment area, already teaches basic computer and craft skills to all its pupils.

This year a multi-purpose workshop is to be created with £20,000 from the Inner London Education Authority's equal opportunities programme.

Mr David Daniels, head of the newly-created faculty of design technology and science, plans to introduce pupils to a wide range of technology by marrying up the school's craft, electronics and science teaching.

Mrs Mary Metcalf, the school's head, said the pupils were very enthusiastic. "We really feel that technology and science not only open up whole new areas for them, but also play a part in developing study and life skills," she added.

Multiplying science numbers by division

Nottinghamshire is starting a counter-attack to encourage more girls to take up science, maths and technology.

This follows highly encouraging work at one Nottingham comprehensive where the numbers of girls taking optional science subjects has increased substantially.

The most radical step taken by the school, Ellis Guilford, has been to separate pupils into single sex groups for physics and chemistry. The effect of this on examination results was to be seen, but the move has been welcomed by staff and has raised the popularity of the subjects with pupils.

Partly as a result of work at E. Guilford, two curriculum development workers have been seconded to Nottinghamshire education authority to work full-time for a year on encouraging equal opportunities for girls in maths, science and technology.

Ms Jean Price and Ms Sue Morton will work with eight secondary schools to raise teachers' awareness of the problem, to develop strategies to deal with it, and to produce curriculum materials.

The work at Ellis Guilford stems from the personal concern of Barry Talbot, the head of science, an upper ability hand of the third year.



At one school the number of girls taking chemistry more than doubled in two years.

segregated, there were changes in careers advice and work on modifying the third year chemistry syllabus began.

As a result, the number of girls taking chemistry has gone up from 1981 to 41 this year, and the number taking physics has gone up from 12 to 21. The number taking technology increased from 12 to 19, but biology figures went down from 35 to 35.

Part of the increase in the number of girls taking chemistry can be explained, not by single-sex teaching but by a jump in the number of girls taking the lower ability mixed science class who chose to take chemistry alongside nutrition and cookery. This follows more science-oriented advice from the careers department.

Changes in careers guidance were an important part of the project. Pupils were given equal opportunities leaflets to take home, and saw video leaflets to careers for girls.

The chemistry syllabus is also being modified, and packs on pollution and materials designed for work with girls have been produced by curriculum development staff working with the school.

A long-term aim of the school's department is to build up a tradition of girls studying and succeeding in physical science. Meanwhile the day-le-sex teaching experiment continues this year with an additional mixed-sex control group.

However, Mr Talbot warned of success in interesting girls in science to other problems.

"Anyone who goes ahead and ploughs a lone furrow like this is bound to end up unpopular with the staff. I've been accused of maintaining my own corner at the expense of other people."

Surrey cleared of cutting jobs to meet pay deal

by Richard Garner

Surrey County Council has been cleared by an independent arbitrator of reneging on this year's Burnham pay agreement for teachers by cutting 74 teachers' jobs to meet the 4.98 per cent salary settlement. It had only set aside 4.3 per cent for teacher pay.

In clearing the council, however, Mr A. J. Marsh, chairman of an independent conciliation body reviewing the case, says he has "considerable sympathy" for the teachers' organization and adds that the authority shortened the normal consultation and adjustment process over job cuts "to an alarming degree."

Meanwhile, the reduction of

teaching posts has already been achieved by a mixture of freezing posts, premature retirement and reducing the hours of part-time teachers. The NUT is considering taking action through an industrial tribunal over the reduction in hours.

Further cuts in education spending are likely in Surrey next year, too, since the county council's policy committee meets today to consider cutting expenditure by about £4 million next year. The main brunt of any reduction is likely to be felt by the education service.

NUT leader seeks help for beleaguered education service

Jarvis sends out SOS call

by Diane Spencer

The education service is under attack and needs pressure groups to come to its defence, Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, told a conference last week.

The present Conservative Government had shown itself to be more hostile towards state education than any other post-war government. Unlike its predecessors, it was not in sympathy with the 1944 Education Act and its ministers were undermining confidence in the service. He called for a group to be set up to defend local government and the education service.

Speaking at the annual conference of the British Educational Management and Administration Society in Manchester, Mr Jarvis said he felt the "absence of a powerful local government voice now there was no longer

the Association of Education Committees".

"It is a measure of the loss of the AEC and an indication of the ineffectiveness of the Council of Local Education Authorities that the Government has been able to do what it has done to the Schools Council."

Mr Jackson Hall, director of education in Sunderland, thought many people were anxious about the growth of centralism. Teachers' associations and education authorities were becoming clients and petitioners rather than partners of the Secretary of State.

Greater centralization of the block grant could mean more diverse standards of provision in education, two researchers warned the conference. Mr Francis Marsden-Wilson and Dr Alan Crispin of London University

Institute of Education reported on their study of policy-making in education finance. They said the Government's pressure to reduce grant-related expenditure (GRE) had strengthened the role of politicians rather than professionals in local authorities.

The political responses by elected members could increase disparities between authorities and this might strengthen the case for national minimum standards.

Mr Norman Thomas, the former Chief Inspector for Primary Education, said the range of work expected of today's primary teacher was vastly greater than when he started teaching. But he thought the chances for progress in primary education were greater now than in 1948 "if we can harness and use the specialists and interests of the teachers".

Government accused of squeezing out adults

Students over 25 are being squeezed out of higher education by the Government's cuts and market philosophy, according to Mr Phillip Whitehead, former Labour higher education spokesman.

Universities were being forced to raise their entrance qualifications and restrict their courses, while access was being determined by the ability to pay, he told the Association for Recurrent Education last Friday.

Labour's working party on post-18 education had found that many universities were making little or no effort to admit older students, and had concluded that this would not change without the establishment of a national statutory providing agency for continuing education with status equal to that of the University Grants Committee.

Delivering the John Daniels lecture at the ARE's annual conference, Mr Whitehead said the universities were being forced into a more and more elitist definition of their own role, and adult education was doubly vulnerable. Not only was it considered dispensable but it was subject to attrition by such means as high fees and VAT charges. He said he would continue to press for the Labour Party's education committee to accept that adult education should be a general entitlement.

Mr Alan Wells, head of the Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit, urged adult educationists to spend less time on theory and more effort on refurbishing their image.

"Adult education is like the Labour Party", he said. "We waste far too much time on arguing about the policies without considering what kind of image we have with the general public. The idea of selling ourselves or marketing our product sends shivers



Phillip Whitehead: general entitlement

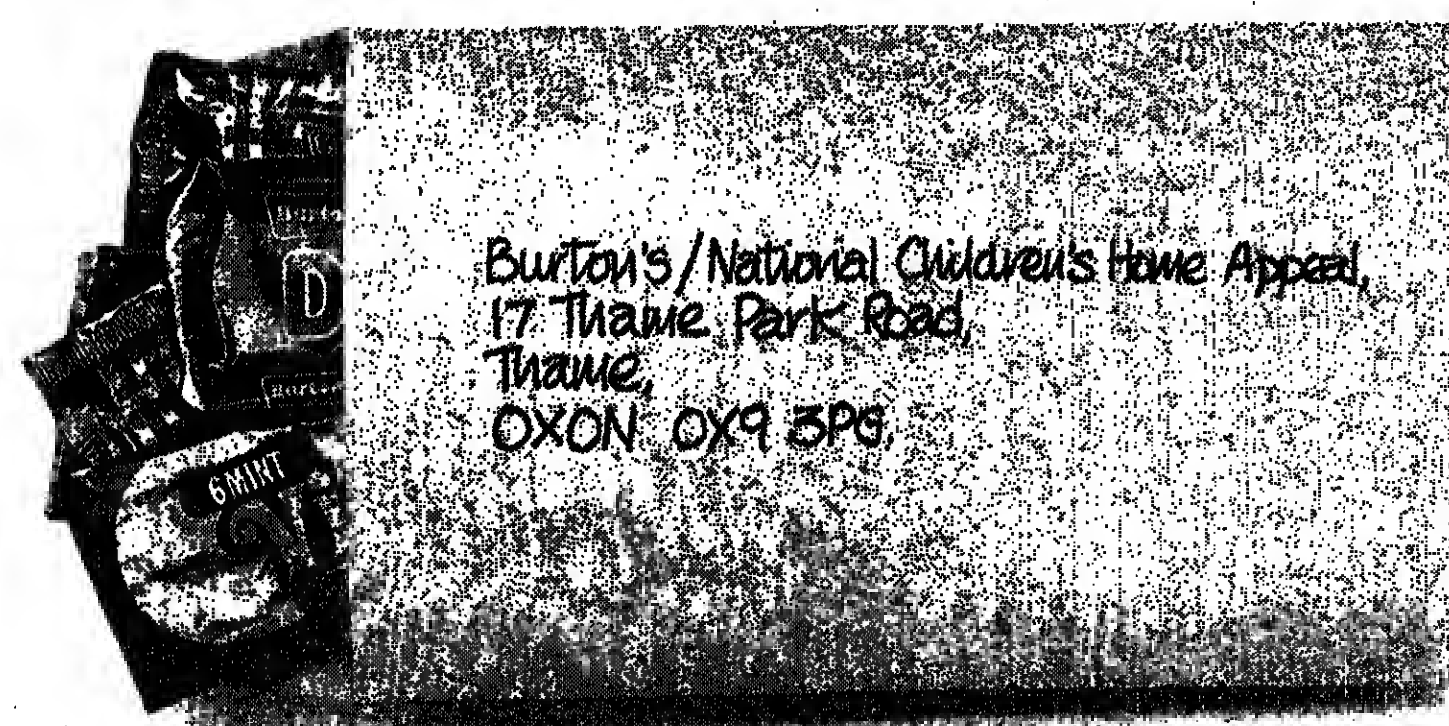
down the spine of adult educationists."

Describing the way Channel 4 and the Post Office had helped to highlight National Numeracy Week, Mr Wells asked why the same sort of campaign could not be organized for adult general education.

Ms Dorothy Eagleson, organizer of the Educational Guidance Service for Adults in Belfast, pointed to the successful publicity campaign that had been mounted by the Council for Continuing Education in Northern Ireland this month to attract people to adult classes.

The association agreed to voice concern over delays by the Department of Education and Science in setting up a national development council. They also decided to complain to the local authority associations about cutbacks in discretionary grants, and the arbitrary and unfair means by which these were frequently awarded or withheld.

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As concern mounts about the extent of solvent abuse among children, Biddy Passmore examines the two options open to the Government – legal curbs or more skilled counselling

What line to take on glue-sniffing?

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Glue-sniffing harms children and legal action is needed to curb it.

Glue-sniffing only harms children in certain circumstances, should not be sensationalized and is best dealt with by professionals.

There, in a nutshell, are the two different approaches to the problem of solvent abuse between which health and Home Office ministers have to choose, as they consider the response to the Government's consultative document sent out at the beginning of the year. They are reflected in two recent reports. The first, from the Magistrates' Association, is the JPs' response to the Government. The second is an account of a seminar organized by the National Children's Bureau.

The magistrates' response does not attempt to discuss the medical, social and education problems of solvent abuse (usually called "glue-sniffing" for short, although a number of other substances, including butane, are sniffed). It simply recognizes that public concern and demand for action have been "constantly expressed" and suggests ways of plugging gaps in the existing law.

Solvent abuse itself should not be made a criminal offence, the association says. Nor does it support adding irritants or nasty-smelling solvents because this would harm somebody using the product for its proper purpose and might also make it less effective. And labelling solvents with health warnings, as with cigarettes, is described as counter-productive, although voluntary moves by retailers to restrict sales appear to work.

But the association does support extending the offence of being drunk in a public place to cover intoxication from other substances. The police should be given the right to detain juveniles found intoxicated whatever the source – liquor, drugs, or solvents, the magistrates say.

Since the association's report was written, a Scottish High Court judge has ruled that selling glue-sniffing "kits" (usually a bag with glue) to children is a crime under common law. English JPs have not yet discussed the ruling, which has no force south of the border, but it is likely they would support a move to make it a crime here, too.

The magistrates clearly feel there is a major problem and that one or two changes in the law would help. But speakers at a recent seminar organized by the National Children's Bureau urged a more sophisticated approach.

Mr Les Kay, training officer to the Life Line project in Manchester, stressed the dangers of sensationalizing solvent abuse and criticized press coverage that failed to distinguish between solvents. For most sniffers, the toxic risks were from substances

other than glue, like butane, he said.

Both Mr Kay and Mr Stewart Asquith, a lecturer in social administration from Edinburgh University, stressed the need to distinguish between three different kinds of glue-sniffers: the experimental, the regular and the chronic user.

The first – and largest – group would simply experiment with solvent abuse and stop within 12 months, after which many would switch to the more socially acceptable (but much more harmful) alcohol. This group was easiest to deal with but ran the greatest medical risk.

The second would use solvents in a way similar to social drinking: regular but controlled, often located in the same place with the same group of friends.

The third group – a tiny minority – would develop a dependency, not on glue itself but on the experience of getting high, Mr Kay said. This was the hardest group to deal with, as sniffing was often connected with an escape from seemingly insoluble personal problems.

There was no clear evidence that glues had toxic qualities which would damage the vital organs of young people or kill them. Nor was it certain that reducing the total number of sniffers would reduce the number of those who died or came to physical harm.

"The result of reducing the total population of sniffers by cracking down on glue could be that many of them will transfer to other, more dangerous substances", Mr Kay said.

Many of the dangers were circumstantial, he pointed out. Youngsters putting plastic bags over their heads could asphyxiate themselves. And many went to inherently dangerous places, such as canal and railway embankments, to sniff.

Describing the range of danger, he said: "... at the safe-ish end is a small group of youngsters sitting under a tree on a sunny afternoon in the middle of the park, sniffing contact adhesive out of a crisp bag. Perhaps the major danger they face is getting a boot up the backside from the 'park'. At the other end one has that group crouched under an old blanket on the canal bank sniffing butane and smoking cigarettes at the same time."

But "managing" sniffing could increase the risks. "It is clear that the child who is over-emotionally debilitated from sniffing in the security of his own bedroom may resort to a hide-away which is private but potentially dangerous."

Adults should be calm, firm and honest with young people and, if counselling a long-term, dependent sniffer, concentrate on ways of helping with personal problems rather than the sniffing itself.

Summing up the seminar's findings in an article called "You have the skills," Mr Richard Ives, a research officer at the bureau, concludes: "We,

as professionals, must be allowed to develop our own considered responses to the problems of solvent abuse, without being panicked into coming up with half-baked and possibly counter-productive solutions."

And that seems to be the view that will prevail with the Government. Its consultative document ministers set out at the beginning of the year already ruled out legal action on fronts, such as extending the Misuse of Drugs Act to cover solvents or placing controls on retail sales.

"The Government remains of the view that the primary response to the problem should remain one of education and persuasion", the document said firmly, a view which has been endorsed in subsequent ministerial statements.

"The education and persuasion are already under way. The Department of Health and Social Security has contributed funds to a book published recently by Macmillan and to seminars, including two run by the National Children's Bureau. And a training film for professionals – police, probation officers, social workers, teachers – and parents will be launched on September 29.

Financial reasons alone are insufficient grounds to prompt local education authorities to close middle schools, says a policy statement published by the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers this week.

The NAS/UNT pledges itself to resist closures and mergers brought about solely on financial grounds and adds: "L.e.a.s must demonstrate that there is sound educational justification for reintroducing a 5 to 11 and 11 to 16/18 system of education in place of a system which includes middle schools."

However, the union says that it is evident from responses from its local branch secretaries that few l.e.a.s which have middle schools have reached any firm conclusions about staffing them in terms of curricular needs.

The policy statement says they should be staffed on the basis of curriculum-related staffing levels rather than on a pupil/teacher ratio basis, adding: "If staffing levels are to be based on the p.t.r., this will destroy the middle school philosophy and lead inevitably to school closures."

Alternatively, it is hoped that the application of a curriculum-related staffing level formula based on agreed curriculum areas will help middle schools to resist the most serious consequences of contraction.

The policy statement adds that middle schools will survive only if they are able to respond to change and innovation, offer a sound and appropriate curriculum and tackle the problems associated with "economic restraint, contraction, a multicultural society and pupils who reach pubescence at an early age."

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Nursery peace lessons 'lost in later schooling'

by Nick Wood

Peace education blossoms in the cosy world of the nursery school, with its toys, teddy bears and sandpits, then fades in the "morally destructive" wilderness of primary and secondary education, it was claimed this week.

Mr Steven Popper, membership secretary of Teachers for Peace, the CND offshoot with over 500 members, said: "It is my view that nursery education is actually peace education in all but name."

"It is multicultural education; it is moral education; it is learning to appreciate this world and the people in it; it is learning that violence is a failure of human relationships, rather than a strength."

Mr Popper, a nursery teacher in Camden, north London, puts his case in the latest group newsletter. By giving school teaches children mutual respect and inculcate attitudes such as a belief in the need for fairness and justice.

"It is thought-provoking to think that despite all the research about the egocentric nature of children of this age, nursery children generally treat each other... with much more respect, tolerance and interest than any comparable age group, including adults."

"For me, this is enough in itself to disprove all the many myths about

human nature and its essential nastiness."

But, according to Mr Popper, such good work is soon undone by the rest of the education service.

"As the education system becomes less child-based and more authoritarian as the child moves up it, the child is learning moral lessons that are totally destructive."

"He learns, essentially, that whoever holds the power is right in society; and it is this attitude that leads to such things as support for the war over the Falkland Islands and the support of a defence system based on the threat of nuclear war; and also acceptance of the doctrine that the majority is always right."

Cash cuts cannot be sole reason for closures

by Richard Garner

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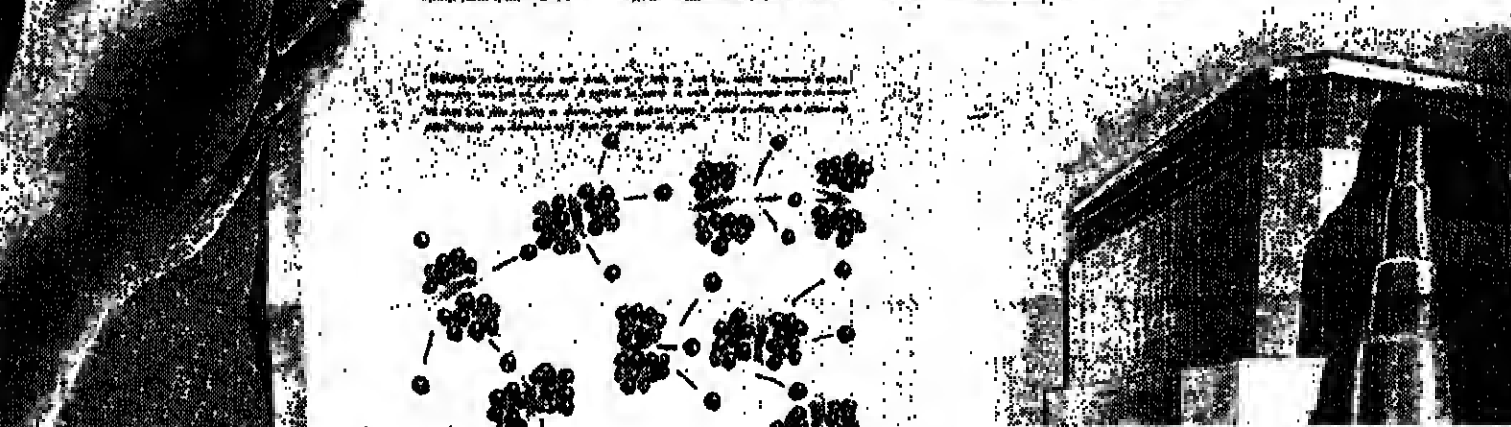
Why dirty water is a major killer

Every day 10,000 children die of dehydration; three out of four people have no proper sanitation, and three out of five no access to safe water. Water-related diseases are the major cause of death of 12 million children under five every year.

These are just a few of the brutal facts highlighted by UNICEF to mark World Children's Week on the theme, "Clean water means life".

UNICEF hopes to provide clean water and sanitation for all by 1990. Fund raising efforts this week have included marathons, painting competitions and musical evenings. In London, the department store Selfridges has displayed the artwork of 124 children from 25 developing countries in its toy department.

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UNDERSTANDING ELECTRICITY



Virginia Makins on the results of two sixth-form college inspections

Flourishing with do-it-yourself

The considerable successes of Esher sixth-form college are no thanks to Surrey, suggests HMI after a full inspection early this year.

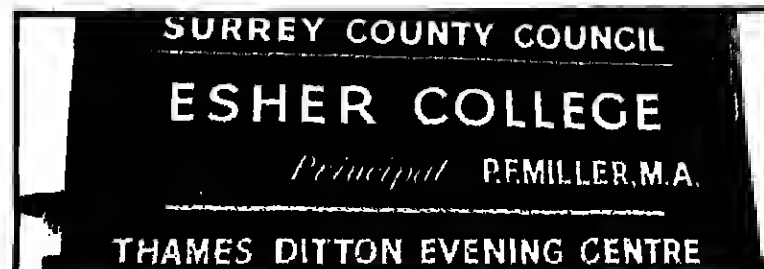
Funds have been inadequate on most fronts - capitation, building programmes, and in-service training. The fact that the college is a "very healthy institution" with a "sense of community where sound learning can flourish" is largely due to self-help by staff, students and parents.

The college is praised for many aspects of its work: excellent staff-student relations and a "happy, relaxed, purposeful atmosphere"; good management structures and financial systems; good record keeping, and systems for checking students' progress; serious attention to general education outside exam courses; developing careers work; and GCE standards that are generally good, and apparently rising.

Weaknesses in provision for less academic students are recognized by the college, as are the limitations of teaching which was "without exception accurate and almost invariably clear", but which promoted critical and speculative discussion only in some departments. Students need to be made more responsible for their own learning, says HMI.

All four senior jobs in the college are held by staff appointed since 1981, and HMI praises the "open, sensitive leadership" which has led to "a clear sense of direction and a healthy self-criticism". But the work of the college is hampered by shortage of resources at many levels.

Capitation in recent years has "lagged considerably" behind inflation



Esher College... praised for many aspects of its work

levels, and the £40 per student capitation has meant that most subject departments need extra spending. "The college is under-resourced" in several respects, and the level of capitation is not sufficient for present needs and the necessary expansion", says HMI.

The college's accommodation problems "warrant serious consideration". Staff and students have gone in for extensive do-it-yourself redecoration, refurbishing and redesign of spaces, but the college has "obvious deficiencies" in students' social and study areas, library stock, staffing and accommodation, and provision for physical education, as well as in departmental accommodation. "The gap between what is still essentially a building designed as a grammar school and the accommodation required by a modern college is still wide", says HMI.

Many of the staff have attended in-service courses, often involving "financial and other personal sacrifices", says the report. But Surrey does not normally provide cover for in-service training in school time, and although the college has done a great deal to ensure discussion of curricular and pastoral matters, "it must be asked if the present level of in-service support provided by the authority is satisfactory, even in the present financial climate".

For a variety of reasons, the college has suffered from the uncertainties of fluctuating student numbers, although the trend has been up in recent years. HMI says that in the absence of a general rationalization of 16-plus provision in the area, there are no easy solutions to this problem, but that "within its own financial constraints it is necessary that the authority will be as realistic as possible over staffing and building provision, so that the damaging effects of fluctuations in numbers may be minimized".

Greenhill Sixth Form College in Huddersfield has had better support from Kirkstons: the old girls' grammar building was considerably adapted to meet the needs of a sixth-form college, and the college is "in general very well resourced".

HMI says that good leadership and a committed staff have helped it to overcome the "constraints of its history" and establish good standards of work and sound relationships. Traditional teaching styles prepare students well for public examinations, and some good and lively teaching was seen, but in many subjects students need to be encouraged to take a more active and independent part.

HMI suggests that the college should review its management structure, which is based on the departmental system of the grammar school. It overloads some individual teachers, and does not encourage interdepartmental initiatives or curriculum innovations, says HMI.

In spite of the adaptations, the buildings still have some serious defects, with inadequate library accommodation, limited facilities for

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sport and recreation, and constant pressure on teaching space. The college has considered rearranging its day to relieve the pressure, and will continue to investigate possibilities, HMI says.

The HMIs approved most attempts to build up general education, but suggest that the present separation of students on one or two-year courses for general studies should be abandoned. Links with contributing schools were a high priority, but curricular links could be strengthened.

The college had some very many departments - often because it lacked opportunities to study Latin, home economics, music or religious education in the feeder school. 14-plus. Provision of these subjects in the region as a whole needs to be considered, suggests HMI.

A survey of art and design in the six forms of eight schools in Somerset and a sixth-form college showed a narrow focus on drawing, painting and sculpture, but produced good results, but ignorance of the possibilities and opportunities for subject among both staff and students reports HMI.

The great need is for in-service training for teachers, and better professional contacts with the wider world in further and higher education.

Difficulties overcome

by Philip Venning

A Leicestershire infant school and a community college are the two schools to receive good reports from HMI inspectors.

Highlife County Infant School, the staff, and hard-working children and staff, with good levels of achievement in spite of the difficulties created by falling rolls. The award-winning building was well cared for and attractive inside, and there were plenty of resources.

The curriculum however would benefit from a review, and the teaching of reading among older pupils should be an increase in the quality of the children's reading experience. The need for some of the present practice of completing exercises and comprehension cards would diminish if able pupils among the older children were also not being stretched and challenged in maths. But these complaints were minor compared with the overall success of the school in the full range of its work and life.

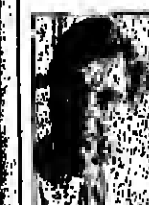
Longside Community College received only a satisfactory inspection as part of a monitoring of secondary education. The inspectors felt that the school had developed much good practice. The broad curriculum for all students and the core for individuals provided a sound foundation for future progress. The chief criticism was of the condition of parts of the building, with damaged furniture and broken glass, and curtains and broken ceiling tiles. The toilets are currently kept locked. This was serious and required urgent attention.

HMI found some evidence that the more able students could work at a brisker pace in some of their lessons, and to mixed ability classes more could be given to the less able. The generally high standard of work, and the log public exam passes, was high and sometimes outstanding. Few students failed to develop a basic level of numeracy and there were good examples of the use of mathematical skills across the curriculum.

Forces rally against political ban

Mark Jackson reports on the tide of opposition to the Government's proposal to remove political and social education from the YTS courses

Careers Diary



by Brian Heap

Putting universities in a tactical order on the UCCA (Universities Central Council on Admissions) form is quite important, although all applicants should decide on their favourite course and universities, and give the latter priority in the first and second positions.

Thereafter a strategy should be planned carefully according to the level of offers likely to be made and the applicant's potential. (Complete lists of offers are published in *Degree Course Offers and Professional and Vocational Degree Course Offers* - the latter for applicants with specific career interests and for specialist subject teachers - both books published by Careers Consultants, 12 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey.)

Popular folk lore has it that you must always put Bristol first. Bristol dispute this, constantly, and it certainly doesn't apply to every subject of the university. Dr Smith, of the physics department, who recently did a partial survey among admissions tutors, says:

"I confirmed that 'all applications are considered on their merits regardless of Bristol's position on the UCCA form'."

Grades and academic potential, however, do matter and, like certain subjects, some universities do get more than their fair share of high-flying applicants. Durham is a case in point.

The university cuts of 1981 did affect grades to some subjects and during the past 12 months there has been a rise of one point in the offers made in 28 per cent of all university courses. The subjects most affected were actuarial science, dentistry, mechanical and electrical engineering, chemistry, materials science and mathematics. In the polytechnics, accounting, arts, business studies, sociology, geography and computer courses gained in popularity. During the past 10 years offers for places on courses in English, French, history and geography have hardly changed.

Two universities are arranging lectures on various subjects for prospective students. The series of Macdonald lectures in geography at University College, London, begins on October 27 and continues weekly until December 1. Full details are available from the geography department. At York University there will be lectures in "Social Education in a technological age" (October 8), "British History in the Twentieth and Sixteenth centuries" (October 15) and "The Modern English Theatre" (no date available). More information about the lectures can be obtained from the education, and English departments.

The Department of Employment's attempt to get political and social education eliminated from all Youth Training Scheme courses is encountering a wall of opposition from nearly all the interests participating in the scheme. Employers and Tory local government politicians are as disturbed as the colleges and the unions by the scope of the proposed ban.

They see little need for changing the existing rules, under which actual political activity or political indoctrination are strictly prohibited, although they are ready to have these spelled out and extended.

They agree with the colleges that the ministerial demand that courses must avoid any discussion of society or issues outside work and personal affairs as an attack on the fundamental objectives of vocational preparation.

Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State at the Department of Employment, who has instructed the Manpower Services Commission to exclude "matters related to the organization and functioning of society in general" from off-the-job instruction, disclosed something of his reasoning in a BBC Radio 4 interview.

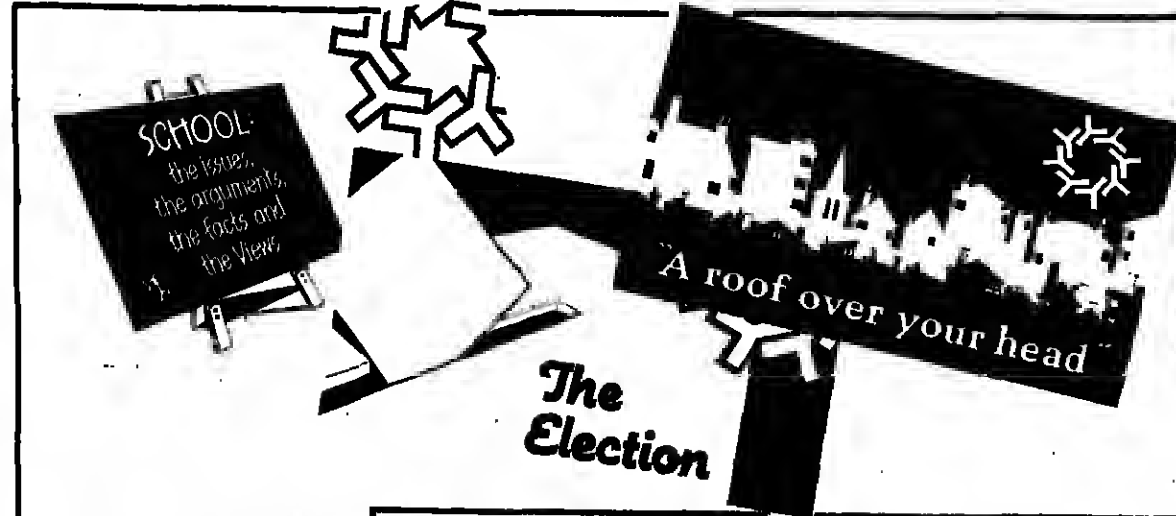
Rejecting the view that teaching youngsters about the workings of democracy helped combat extremism, he said that the YTS was about training and work experience, not about politics.

"I've had some complaints, admittedly not many, but I'm totally convinced that the Youth Training Scheme is all about the world of work, and I don't want it to get a bad name if by mistake politics got involved," he added.

The Minister's amplification helped convince employers' representatives on the MSC's advisory group on the content of YTS training, that the terms of the instruction really are intended to change the syllabuses which colleges - and some employer-run training organizations - have drawn up for the YTS.

The part of the syllabus affected is that intended to cover one of the areas specified by the MSC - "the world outside employment".

A meeting last week of the advisory group, which also includes local authority representatives, decided it must stand by the right of professional discussion and projects they judge necessary to give trainees an understanding of the way the world outside



These political education packs, produced with a DES grant by the British Youth Council, are part of a series used in YTS syllabuses in many colleges.

Most of the packs offer factual briefing and discussion suggestions on the major social issues: the education system, exams, post-school training and employment, housing, health, equal opportunities and race.

All of the packs seek to provide young people with facts and arguments on both sides of any issues designed to provoke discussion and activities.

their training and work experience operates.

Many of the syllabuses drawn up for the YTS are based on the advice given in the guidebook to colleges *Supporting YTS* issued by the Government's Further Education Unit. This includes the unit's checklist of aims for vocational preparation on which the new 17-plus certificate for schools and colleges has been partly based.

Among the aims are to:

- Bring about an informed perspective on the role and status of a young person in an adult society and the working world;
- Provide a basis on which the young person acquires a set of moral values applicable to issues in contemporary society; and
- Bring about sufficient political and economic literacy to understand the social environment and participate in it.

The FEU suggests that students should discuss the effects of public authority policies and decisions, and also the major party leaders and their policies and describe ways of influencing them, including forming pressure

groups and organizing petitions.

Mr Jack Mansell, the FEU's director, said this week: "It would be very unfortunate if such learning opportunities were banned from young people in the YTS while being encouraged for those in full-time education."

A typical example of a college syllabus is the Reddington College programme for off-the-job training in connection with the North London Vehicle Workshop YOP scheme, which includes visits to courts and discussions about unemployment.

But the specification which one employer organization, the British Association of Professional Hairdressing Employers is issuing to colleges providing off-the-job training for the YTS scheme the association runs, goes a great deal further.

It tells the colleges to cover: moral issues and dilemmas; group dynamics and concepts of trust, conformity, and influence; racism and sexism; and social conventions, tradition, and social change.

Manpower Services Commission officials, many of whom are appalled by Mr Morrison's intervention - Mr Geoffrey Holland, the MSC's director, has always strongly backed the view that the content of instruction should be left to the professionals - are not going to implement the instruction before the Youth Training Board gets a chance to discuss it on October 12.

But on Wednesday representatives of the further education associations, of the further education, the education service, representative of the commission itself to raise the issue at

yesterday's meeting of the Commission.

NATFHE, the college lecturers' union, have already protested to Mr Holland directly, saying that "absolutely legitimate social and life skills training" could fall foul of the proposed ban.

Mr Longden, who is president of the Association of Vice-Principals, and was the personal choice of ministers for the commission seat, made it plain before the meeting that he was opposed to the ban.

He said: "It's naive to think you can stop 16-year-olds from discussing the real world, and if there are attempts to sway them by a few political extremists, they form a tiny proportion of all the balanced and unprejudiced work being done in the colleges by thousands of professional teachers who have the interests of the young fully at heart."

● The Education Secretary was consulted over Mr Morrison's draft instruction and "expressed himself as generally content" says the DES. But that he thought the matter ought to be kept under review.

Meanwhile senior Manpower Services Commission Officials have, after careful consideration, refused to answer a series of questions from *The TES* on how Mr Morrison's instructions are to be interpreted in YTS practice. The questions were referred to the MSC by the Department of Employment, to whom they were originally addressed. In reply to each question the MSC has said: "Ask the Minister."

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OVERSEAS

Brave new world envisaged for maths and science

UNITED STATES

Peter David on proposals for improving the standard of maths and science teaching

A visionary but expensive blueprint for restoring the standard of maths and science teaching in American schools was outlined last week by a special commission set up 17 months ago by the National Science Board, the policy-making body of the National Science Foundation.

In an uncompromising call for Federal intervention to avert a crisis in teaching standards, the report calls on the Reagan Administration to invest heavily in a programme to retrain more than a million of the staff with teaching maths and science without the qualifications to do so. It also wants the Federal Government to finance the creation of 2,000 exemplary schools as "landmarks of excellence" for maths and science education.

By its own count, the cost of implementing the commission's proposals would be staggering. The Federal government is asked to invest an extra \$956m (£640m) a year for maths and science education in the next three years, followed by \$680m in the two years after that and \$331m a year until 1995.

At that time, the commission maintains, American maths and science education would have become "the finest in the world".

Publication of the recommendations by a body as august as the National Science Board can be expected to place the Reagan Administration in a difficult dilemma. Two years ago, the Administration regarded science education as a low priority and virtually eliminated money for that purpose from the budget of the National Science Foundation.

In 1983, however, Congress insisted on spending more on maths and science, and for the past year the Administration has maintained that the improvement of educational standards - particularly in subjects allied to high technology - is an important national priority.

The scale of the commission's plans is certain to cause misgivings in an Administration fighting hard to reduce the Federal budget deficit. And the board's suggestion that the Federal Government play a leading role in improving maths and science teaching is in stark contrast to the Administration's view that education is primarily a responsibility of states and districts.

Anticipating these objections, the commission maintains that national leadership is essential, and calls for the creation of a National Education Council that will report directly to the President and preside over the Federal investment. The bulk of Federal spending would be consigned by the teacher retraining scheme and the establishment of "exemplary schools".

The commission says that severe shortages of qualified maths and science teachers exist throughout the United States. Fewer college students are entering the profession and a growing number of experienced

teachers are leaving for better jobs in business and industry. As a result, many school systems have been forced to disregard state certification requirements and fill the gaps with teachers who are not fully qualified in maths and science.

More than a million teachers at primary and secondary level need to be trained or retrained if they are to teach maths and science effectively, the report estimates. At a cost of about \$3,000 a teacher, the programme would have to be phased over five years and the cost divided between state and Federal governments. Even so, the cost to Washington would be \$350m a year.

At the same time, the commission wants to see sweeping curriculum reforms and far more time devoted to maths and science within school timetables. It says the school day or school year must be lengthened so that from the age of five onwards every child will have at least an hour of mathematics and half an hour of science every day.

To graduate from high school or enter college, the maths and science requirements should be substantially raised, the report recommends. High school graduates should in future have completed three years of secondary mathematics, including one year of algebra, and three years of science and technology, including a term of computer science.

School-leavers going on to higher education will have to have completed four years of high school science, including physics, chemistry and a full year of computer science; and four years of mathematics, including a second year of algebra and course work covering probability and statistics.

The result of increased exposure to maths and science teaching is expected to give pupils a better understanding of problem-solving with less emphasis on formal computation. Included in the commission's report is a set of ambitious guidelines spelling out how much mathematics every high school leaver should know.

Most of these aims will be difficult to achieve without raising the quality of the teaching force, the report says. To entice enough new teachers, however, teacher pay and status would have to be enhanced. The commission urges the teachers' unions to reconsider their objections to paying maths and science specialists more than those in other subjects.

Educating Americans for the 21st Century. Available from the National Science Board Commission on pre-college education in mathematics, science and technology, 1800 G Street, NW, Washington DC, 20550.



The system of federal funding has undermined legislation designed to ensure that girls enjoy equal treatment.

Equality work gets unfair share of cuts

Educational workers battling to bring sexual equality to education in the United States face mounting problems. In spite of having the backing of equality legislation which is far more rigorous than that which exists in Britain, they are having to run very hard to stand still.

One of the greatest threats to their work is uncertainty about Federal funding beyond next month. This stems from a recent freeze on all Federal monies used for desegregation, and on the discretionary fund of the Education Secretary which pays for such programmes as Headstart, for disadvantaged pre-schoolers.

The order was made by a judge presiding over an attempt by the city of Chicago to sue the Government for not honouring obligations inherited from the Carter Administration, who wanted to have control over relevant monies for the duration of the hearing. This freeze has now been lifted until October, but beyond that workers face the prospect of at least temporary interruption to their work. If not permanent shut-down.

Other problems include a vigorous "back to basics" movement, which, coupled with severe cuts in education funds, is keeping morale low, particularly among those who hoped by now to be benefitting from the pioneering work of the mid-1970s.

As one of them said, "When I look back on 1972-4, I thought then that the Nixon Administration was the worst

thing that ever happened. Now I would give anything to have him back because the struggle we went through getting these laws passed in the early 1970s was nothing to just trying to keep them alive now."

In the United States any educational institution receiving Federal money must comply with Title IX of the Civil Rights Act (implemented in 1975, the same year as our Sex Discrimination Act.)

This Title prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and stipulates that every school district must nominate someone to oversee this area.

To help schools comply with the legislation, 12 regional Sex Desegregation Assistance Centres have been set up. These centres produce materials, train teachers and administrators, and act as resource and information centres.

However they are funded by "Federal money, which means great have to be recycled for annually, against open competition every year. This inevitably means the much energy and staff time is spent each year ensuring refunding. In addition, competitive funding plus working in the same field against other and does not encourage the sharing of resources or expertise. It also has to compete for funds with those working in race and national origin centres.

Recent education cuts have affected the work of the centres, particularly their contact with classroom teachers. Money to pay for supply staff, covering teachers released for courses, has been reduced considerably, as has almost all other which teachers in some areas are used to receiving for attending in-service training courses in their own time.

Consequently, the people most likely spared from their day to day administrators and superintendents are the ones the centres are likely to have most contact with. Ironically the vast majority in a group are male, many having come to their posts through being school sports coaches, rather than classroom teachers. In Michigan, for example, women make up 66 per cent of the teaching force but less than 1 per cent of the administrators.

Kate Myers

Moonlight and microchips...

by a special correspondent

SINGAPORE

Mr Lee Kuan Yew dabbles in the human stock market with the aid of new technology.

The Government of Singapore is to use the unromantic microchip to replace the fast-disappearing Asian family matchmaker in a bid to pair off unmarried graduates.

And the first on the list for a newly planned, state-run, computerized matchmaking service are likely to be university-educated women teachers, who find Singapore men uninteresting, ungallant, insensitive and lacking in courtship techniques, according to a recent survey.

Now professors in the only university on the island have been told to introduce a courtship technique course for undergraduates, while government officials study "software" from Japan for a computerized cupid.

The republic's decision-makers, so strangers to the policies of social engineering, recently reviewed available research and concluded that better educated parents produce better educated children.

As the island's premier, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, put it in last month's National Day rally: the formula for super kids is 80 per cent nature and 20 per cent nurture.

But when government planners - producers of population control campaigns under the "Two is Enough" slogan - looked at demographic trends, they discovered that tertiary educated parents were heading the small family cult most.



Singapore girls: their reluctance to marry is worrying the Government.

The better educated the woman, the fewer children she had - 1.65 children - while those with little or no education were having twice as many - 3.3 children.

The problem is particularly worrying for Singapore. Its phenomenal economic growth relies heavily on attracting foreign investors with the promise of a well-educated workforce, capable of handling high-technology industries.

In the words of Mr Lee: "If we continue to reproduce ourselves in this top-down way, we will be unable to maintain our present standards. Levels of competence will decline. Our economy will falter, and the society

will decline. For how can we afford lowering performance when for every two graduates, in 25 years' time there will be one graduate and for every two uneducated workers, there will be three? Worse, the coming society of computers and robotics need more, not less, well-educated workers."

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Education, Dr Goh Keng Swee, was quick to join in the chorus and give it a new dimension. He pointed out that of 815 women in the country, 30 per cent were unmarried. He viewed some and found that none was in a hurry to marry.

In Japan women graduates who want to marry often turn to the computer to do their matchmaking. Some 500 computers have been set up at personal details of marriage hopefuls and Mitsubishi, one of the industrial giants in the country, boasts of having 23,000 marriages arranged by its computers.

A team of computer experts has been sent to Japan to study computerized matchmaking. But the mighty Singapore could find the going much tougher in Singapore where unmarried graduates women-teachers generally have a low opinion of Singapore's men.

The male graduate's chief shortcoming is his lack of sensitivity and understanding. He is a poor communicator. This is because his range of interests is narrow and his ability to articulate his thoughts poor. He is generally a male chauvinist.

As compared with the Caucasian male, he is deficient in social graces, according to Dr Goh's survey.

But will the single graduate school teacher still submit her name to a computerized marriage list? All the computerized marriage list? All the computerized marriage list? All the computerized marriage list?

Sensitivity on race

Sir - "Heads are blamed for Muslim takeover bid" (TES, September 9). We were very disturbed by both the appearance of these headlines on the front page, and the statements quoted to the accompanying article.

The article might lead your readers to believe that the schools were not following the excellent multi-ethnic guidelines set by the Bradford authority; these guidelines evolved from good practice developed in the schools over two decades.

We have repeatedly issued invitations to members of the Muslim Parents' Association and the local council to visit our schools, particularly when an assembly is taking place. Most knowledgeable councillors would agree that great thought and sensitivity has been applied to the assembly.

Each school issues a booklet to parents containing information in the relevant languages, covering parental rights and school activities, including swimming where appropriate. Bradford has long been known for its excellent record of racial harmony. In no small part due to the progressive and sensitive work in the schools.

C BOWDER
Vice Chairman
Assistant Masters & Mistresses Assoc
Bradford Branch
P CROGAN
Membership Secretary
National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers Bradford Branch
S WOODMAN (MRS)
Secretary
J LOCKWOOD
Vice President
National Association of Head Teachers Bradford Branch
R FOSTER
President
P MCBRYDE
Secretary
National Union of Teachers Bradford Division
J ANDERSON
Convener
Secondary Heads Association Bradford Branch

Sick of soya
Sir - I was interested to read of Bradford's plan to provide halal meat for Asian children.

Here in Birmingham we exist on a school meal diet of soya protein, with occasional cheese dishes and fish fingers to break the monotony. We would be very grateful to have a meal dish for English children, and would not be fussy about whether it was killed ritually.

JANICE DAVIES
243, Hay Green Lane
Broomfield, Birmingham

Her achievement very closely

Different goals
Sir - Bobby Robson's suggestion that young and promising footballers train with professional clubs (TES September 9) says little except to exaggerate the fact that schools and those involved with professional football clubs appear not to be working towards common standards of attitudes and general behaviour when involved in sport.

To be frank, I see "professional" footballers deliberately cheating, openly abusing authority and frequently attempting to gain unfair advantage - all as part of their daily work. Appealing for throw-ins or corners when players know full well they are wrong to do so; shouting or jostling officials; pushing and tripping opponents; have all apparently become a part of the game at the top level. In short, the "professionals" are poor ambassadors of the sport. What this will do for the future of the game is already becoming apparent: in the falling gates over the past five years.

Football must be the most popular team game among schoolboys in the country. It is played with great enthusiasm, and in some cases, with a great deal of skill. What Mr Robson apparently fails to realize is that interest in football is well aware of the need to develop to the full the talents of the youngsters, as well as educationists must be committed to the overwhelming importance of our "pastoral" responsibilities.

By all means, encourage FA and specific club coaches and scouts to become involved in schools, bringing their expertise, enthusiasm and experience into the children's natural environment where they are relaxed and more likely to give of their best. Might I conclude by suggesting that

Talented boys... is contact with the professional clubs a good thing?

The young and impressionable boys must be kept away from professional clubs for as long as possible so that their attitudes towards fair play, loyalty towards peers, society and so on, are allowed to mature in a natural way.

By all means, encourage FA and specific club coaches and scouts to become involved in schools, bringing their expertise, enthusiasm and experience into the children's natural environment where they are relaxed and more likely to give of their best. Might I conclude by suggesting that

The comprehensive 'patient' isn't sick

academic performance of the most able was maintained, but materially improved for those within the top third percentile of ability. Given the shortcomings of the curriculum for the least able, these figures hardly represent "failure".

Moreover, his proposal to end compulsory schooling at 14 would lead to educational deprivation for children of poor parents unless the right to seven further years of education were accompanied by financial support.

I wonder whether Professor MacCabe, who again talks generally of the failures of the comprehensive schools, has sought to identify their successes? The DES Statistical Bulletin 11/83 shows that between 1970 and 1980 pupils gaining one or more A levels remained steady at 17 per cent, pupils gaining five or more O level grades A-C alone rose from 7 per cent to 9 per cent and those gaining one to four O grades A-C rose from 17 per cent to 25 per cent. During the major period of comprehensive reorganization the

The universities need to be made more accountable. Three areas in particular within the university need to be researched:

● What is taught. Colin MacCabe refers in passing to the over-specialized curriculum which has been imposed on the comprehensives by the universities.

● How it is taught. Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, new chairman of the University Grants Committee wants to place more emphasis on the quality of teaching in the universities. It should be noted with astonishment that, alone among teachers, university teachers receive no compulsory teacher training.

● How what is taught is examined. At present in the context of high failure and dropout rates a growing number

of students are complaining about both the quality of teaching and the examining process which has failed them. Yet the universities refuse to justify or explain their verdicts, conduct secret hearings, and deny even PhD students the elementary right of appeal accorded to O level and CSE candidates.

During my time at the Sociology of Education Department, the University of London Institute of Education, research into the university was anathema. Can Professor Lawton as director, say that within the Institute, or indeed elsewhere, this has changed?

R B ADAMS
Jerusalem House
Orchard Terrace
Totnes
Devon

My association represents some 110 colleges, most of which are open to and provide appropriate courses for pupils of all abilities. Their success depends to a high degree on the 1.1-1.6 comprehensives that supply these pupils. From this base we have been able to maintain high academic standards for the most able, but more

importantly have provided a second chance for those who need more time to develop their potential; and we have, in many cases, enabled very lame ducks to walk steadily and confidently.

Indeed, with Professor MacCabe, we would claim that in our colleges "there is respect for the experience of others and value for one's own"; certainly we reject this widespread notion that comprehensives have failed or that the private sector must be the panacea for all our ills.

Such a notion is contrary to evidence, an immediate example of which is the large number of private sector sixth-formers who are annually entering state sixth form colleges. So please, Professor MacCabe, before burying the body, let us make quite sure that the patient is ill.

JOHN GLAZIER
Secretary, Association of Principals of Sixth Form Colleges
South East Essex Sixth Form College

hook. "We haven't the resources. "Look at the catchment area" etc. Yet in most of Europe the state schools are preferred to private schools. Why should we be special, or significantly different?

There's no need to abolish anything - except the lack of self-confidence which fills too many comprehensive corridors.

B N KENSDALE
57 Chatsworth Way
London SE 47

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Denis Lawton Colin MacCabe

State v private

Sir - I notice that the debate about public schools continues. We are all quite familiar with the arguments by now, and neither Lawrence Norcross nor Brian Tyler seem to have much that is new to say.

The conclusion is, however, remarkably simple. When the state system stops making excuses for itself and gets down to offering the private sector some real competition, then public schools will, inevitably, disappear. No one would part with so much cash without having pretty good reasons.

The trouble is that we live in the presence of a myth that suggests public schools must be better, and this lets too many comprehensives off the

hook. "We haven't the resources. "Look at the catchment area" etc. Yet in most of Europe the state schools are preferred to private schools. Why should we be special, or significantly different?

There's no need to abolish anything - except the lack of self-confidence which fills too many comprehensive corridors.

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Letters for publication should be kept as brief as possible and typed on one side of the paper only. The Editor reserves the right to cut or amend them.

TEACHERS' BUILDING SOCIETY

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FEATURES

Pointless forays

Images from within

Ann Fitzgerald finds long-stay prisoners express their need to give by writing for children

At a ceremony in Long Lartin Prison, Worcestershire yesterday, a cheque for £1,500 was due to be handed to the principal of the Summerfield School for Children with Impaired Hearing, Malvern. The money was raised from the sales of a small paperback book, *Images From Within*, a collection of poems and stories for children written by prisoners.

The ceremony was the climax of a 16-month project which has taken both the staff and the inmates of one of Britain's seven maximum security prisons rather by surprise. Long Lartin's assistant governor, Les Lavender, says: "When we started we couldn't imagine the number of spin-offs. It's had an impact on everyone in the prison beyond anything we expected. There are very few prison-wide activities which get almost everyone actively and emotionally involved in a positive way but this book has done just that."

But as Gill Ganner who teaches English at the prison, explains: "It wasn't an idea imposed from above. It grew naturally out of the men's own ideas, interests and feelings". The project arose from the "Thursday Group", Gill's weekly, evening class on the arts which brings writers, poets, actors and artists to the prison to talk to the men. "It's a purely voluntary class which the men come to in their leisure time. It began as an English literature class in response to a request from some of the men who come to the daytime English language lessons for, 'a chance to do some literature'. I started a literature class in the evenings, but found it was too academic and restricting, and wasn't answering the men's needs."

With the governor's permission, she introduced visiting speakers and found this fired the prisoners' imaginations. "Poets and writers of all sorts seemed particularly to interest them, and I could tell by the number of requests for books of poems and other literature from the library after a speaker had been, that they were doing a lot, more reading themselves and soon they began bringing bits of their own writing to some of their lessons", she says.



Gill and the prison's education officer, Roger Horton, talked about gathering some of the material into an anthology. But the men had a better idea. "They wanted to do something positive with their work", explains Gill, "many of them feel a great need to give, a feeling which can almost never be satisfied in prison. They thought of doing something for children, particularly handicapped children."

The project gathered momentum. Men who had been trying out bits of writing redoubled their efforts. For example, one prisoner commented: "I'd written poetry before but only when I was depressed. This was the first time I could write not feeling depressed". He came up with a tenderly humorous poem on a child's bedtime, questions: "Will I go to Heaven? 'Only if you're good'. 'Will I see ice cream

there?' 'I should think you would?'"

Others tried writing for the first time, like the man who had been in the forefront of the discussions on the project and so felt he ought to contribute. "I'd never done any writing before and I found it very difficult. I haven't got that kind of talent but I was determined to contribute for the sake of the children". His short poem highlights another eternal question of childhood: "What will I be?"

People beyond the Thursday Group were drawn in, often to help with illustrations. They, too, found themselves breaking new ground like the prisoner responsible for the front cover illustration who admitted he'd never created a 'gentle' picture before. Others acted as constructive listeners, a task which often fell to workers. On the cell blocks officers would be asked: "Just

listen to this for a moment", and usually found some advice to offer the writer.

Thursday evenings in the summer term were given over to the work of the editorial committee, a group of 12 prisoners, chaired by Gill. A target of £1,000 profit had been set which would require a minimum sale of 2,000 copies at a £0.50 each. Layout, print type, bindings, jacket pages and copyright were all worked out in detail and finally there was the difficult choice of what pieces to include. "Everything was read and carefully considered and a general consensus about 'in' or 'out' emerged", says Gill.

In the end about a third of all the material submitted was chosen for publication in the 65-page book. Its overall tone is one of warmth and emotion expressed very simply as the men speak directly to their young readers, perhaps expressing thoughts they would be too embarrassed to voice to their own children:

Good times there are many,
And plenty of bad times too,
But all through this life time,
'There's someone who thinks of you...
These people are your parents,
And their love is always true,
So I want you all to know,
We really do love you.

There's humour, too, and a delightful appreciation of childhood pleasures: Bubble, bubble, Gurgley sploosh, I can blow bubbles in my pop, Trumbley, Wumbley.

Published in April, the book was soon selling itself. Something in its simple, direct, style was straight to the hearts of children as letters from parents, teachers and the children themselves soon proved. At one point Roger Horton's office in the education block needed three new just to deal with the letters and despatch orders. Now, five months later, the presentation to the Malvern school of £1,500, well in excess of the original target, has set the final seal of success on the project.

But there are other gains which can't be quantified, such as the sense of achievement expressed by one contributor. "It was a wonderful sensation, seeing it in print", while another claims, "me myself, I'm not adequate enough to write". This is one of the most important changes the book has brought about; a new image of hope and self-esteem for men serving sentences of anything up to 30 years: "Even though we're confined, it shows we're not limited physically, not mentally".

Dear sir?

Audrey Wootton's correspondence reveals the hidden messages about a woman's place in school

To an Assistant Education Officer, September 21, 1976.

Would it be possible to change the word headmaster, used in addressing mail to this school, to headteacher or even headmistress? To a college of higher education tutor, March 24, 1980.

I have received your letter and pamphlets on QND and HND Mechanical Engineering. I have handed these to the teacher in charge of careers. Your greeting in the letter was "Dear headmaster". I wonder if you would consider in future writing this "Dear headteacher".

To a cadet corps Lt Cdr Royal Naval Reserve, March 31, 1980.

I receive a number of requests from you each year, all addressed to "Dear sir". I wonder if it would be possible to amend your introduction? I am pleased to give Cadets D. Gallecher, P. Lee and G. Sentance leave from school if they have their parents' consent.

To the brand manager of a pen firm, March 12, 1981.

As headteacher of this school, I have received a duplicated letter in connection with your "Reply youth award" 1981. I shall pass this letter to a member of staff to discuss with children who may be interested. Your duplicated letter was addressed to "Dear headmaster". I do not think that I am the only headmistress in the country. Although we are a minority I do not think it should be implied that we do not exist. I suggest that "Dear headteacher" would be a more appropriate salutation. To the British Railways Board, June 24, 1981. I have received Jimmy Saville's letter addressed to "Dear headteacher" on the subject of the British Rail student railcard and have displayed the accompanying literature. I deplore the fact that on this literature, which will no doubt go to

most educational establishments in the country, you say "a copy of your photograph must be countersigned and stamped by your Headmaster, Supervisor, Tutor etc". The implicit message to all readers - impressionable boys and girls, young men and women - is that all headteachers are men. It is not easy for women to become headteachers of large schools and the hidden propaganda of your statement reinforces the very assumption which makes it difficult for women to become headteachers.

From the British Railways Board, July 8, 1981. Thank you for your letter of June 24. By referring to headmaster instead of the more acceptable headteacher on student railcard literature, we are certainly leaving ourselves open to accusations of sex discrimination, although in fact there is no such intention on our part. I have drawn this to the attention of our chief advertising manager, in order that he can make what amendments he judges to be appropriate, when next a reprint is required.

To a computer centre, October 5, 1981. I have received your letter about Commodore Computer Systems VIC-20 and will consider what you say. I should like to ask you to reconsider your form of address on open circulars to schools so that you would perhaps address them to the headteacher, rather than the headmaster. Two there are few headmistresses in secondary schools but a stereotyped use of headmaster rather than headteacher tends to assume there are none.

To a county football club, November 6, 1981. Thank you for your duplicated letter in connection with the county football club. This begins "Dear headmaster". I should like to record my regret that you use this rather than "Dear headteacher". Although, regrettably, the majority of headteachers are men, it does not help the future promotion of women if it is tacitly accepted that all headteachers are men with the suggestion that such posts will always be occupied exclusively by men.

From a county football club, November 9, 1981. Thank you for your letter. We write to inform you that we have noted your comments and regret that we have offended you in this matter.

To the Director General, BBC, March 30, 1982. The reports from your reporters and commenta-

tors in connexion with schools are sometimes inaccurate by implication. When you are commenting on activities in comprehensive secondary schools and the view of their headteachers (or of headteachers who are members of the Secondary Headteachers Association and the National Association of Head Teachers) the form of the reference is very often "Headmasters say... believe... intend". The BBC employs men and woman announcers and presenters of programmes like *Today* and *Nationwide*. Would you consider suggesting to your writers of news items and the presenters of programmes that they might weigh the use of the terms "headteachers" or "headmasters and headmistresses" against the use of the word "headmasters"?

From the BBC, April 23, 1982. I have been asked to thank you for your letter, addressed to the Director General, and to let you know that the comments you expressed have been noted.

To a business firm, April 19, 1982. Thank you for your information about calculators which I have passed to the head of mathematics. Yours was a duplicated letter to many secondary schools. Could I ask you to consider addressing such letters in future to the headteacher rather than headmaster, and saluting us as "Dear sir or madam", rather than "Dear sir"?

From a business firm, April 22, 1982. Thank you for your letter regarding our circular letter about calculators. I must apologize for the way in which our letter was addressed. I fully take your point and accept that I have had my "knuckles rapped". However, I do hope my slip has not caused us to lose to (sic) much face and that you find the information of interest.

To the Ministry of Defence, November 2, 1982. I have just signed a form, ARMY FORM E529 (Revised 1979), for a boy joining the Army Cadets. On the form he is instructed to take it to his headmaster for signature and in the section I signed I had to change headmaster to either headmistress or headteacher. I chose the latter, as I am not the rabid feminist you are assuming from the fact that I am writing on this matter. I do, however, deplore the implicit message of your form: that all headteachers are men.

To Sir Keith Joseph and Rt Hon Neil Kinnock, School, Derby.

copy to Director General, BBC, May 17, 1983. This morning you commented on education on BBC radio programme. A minor matter, yet of some significance, was depressing. Two men of influence referred to "headmasters" and your listeners included impressionable boys and girls, young men and women. True there are few headmistresses in secondary schools but a stereotyped use of "headmasters" implies that headmistresses do not exist. I hope that you will consider using the term "headteachers" rather than "headmasters" in future. Prior to my election both your parties might consider the women voters. I have written unsuccessfully to the Director General of the BBC on previous occasions because the presenters (male and female) use the shorthand stereotype "headmasters", thus encouraging the interviewed to do likewise.

From the Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph, 27, May 19, 1983. Thank you for your letter of May 17. You are quite right to correct me. Normally I am quite correct in referring to headmasters and headmistresses, or to headteachers - but I was wrong in referring to "headmasters" in your programme, I slipped up. I will try not to do so again.

From the Rt Hon Neil Kinnock MP, July 4, 1983. Thank you for your letter received on May 17 concerning my comments on BBC radio. I was sorry not to have replied earlier but I was heavily involved in the General Election campaign. You chastise me, quite rightly, for inadvertently referring to "headmasters" and not to "headteachers". I agree that the best term to use is "headteachers". Thank you for bringing it to my attention.

To the Editor of The Times Educational Supplement, September 9, 1983. Schools are not the only societies where a hidden curriculum flourishes. I am aware of the failure of this trivial correspondence which isolates one straw in the burden of concealed handicaps. But perhaps it encourages a detachment that is useful when faced with small personal slights.

Audrey Wootton is headmistress of Darnley School, Derby.



WATCHING WITHOUT MOTHER

After the recent five thousandth edition of *Play School*, the BBC this week changed the format of its 'nursery of the air'. Nick Baker finds the producers determined to avoid too many assumptions about the viewers and furious about accusations that the programme is too middle class.

At first it's hard to take seriously a group of adults huddled around a television monitor watching a man cut out tiny fish from silver paper and saying things like "I see we're using grown-up scissors now." It becomes easier to understand when you realize that in a week's time 71 per cent of two to five-year-olds will be watching the same picture. So, incidentally, will thousands of mums, dads, older brothers and sisters and playgroup leaders.

It's even easier to see why *Play School* is put together with such care when you know that the programme has been transmitted regularly since 1964. When staffroom conversation turns to memories of children's television, recently-qualified teachers are more likely to reminisce about *Play School* than *Bill and Ben*.

Play School started because BBC2 had just been created and could offer extra air time for children's television. At the same time, the clamour for more nursery school education focused the BBC's attention on the under-fives. *Play School* was originally conceived to complement the *Watch With Mother* series on BBC1. Cynthia Felgate, executive producer of BBC programmes for the under-fives, who wryly refers to herself as "Madame *Play School*", having worked on it for 19 years, explains: "At first it was billed as 'The nursery school of the air', I personally don't like that description because the idea of nursery school implies the companionship of a lot of other children, which you can't provide on screen."

"One old idea about programmes for the under-fives was to put a lot of children in the studio with a lady. It just didn't work - the presenter lady was naturally more preoccupied with the children in the studio than those at home. It ended up with a party taking place on the screen from which the child watching at home was excluded. We do include children on our programme, but we take the camera to them, they never appear in studio."

So what are the programme's aims? Does it try to be educational? "The aim is basically to entertain children and involve them, at home. It's difficult to talk about educational aims. Many years ago, parents talked to children, told them stories, taught them games, rhymes and songs, and children learnt through these relationships. Then, experts came along and called this process 'education'. In fact it's doing what any adult who has a four-year-old child would do if they wanted to keep it happy and involve it. When we make a programme we don't start with 'education' as our basis. We start with the idea that all over the country in all sorts of different situations there are four-year-olds. You build up what you think might entertain them and then what they might like to know. When we started we used the rhymes, songs and stories that already existed. Making five programmes a week, year in, and year out, we soon ran out, so we had to make our own."

An important part of the directors' work is to research into the world of the under-fives by visiting play groups and homes. The programme does seem to succeed in

entertaining children and involving them in an active way. Children do copy the songs and mimes as well as answering the questions the presenters ask them. What I found interesting too was the lack of pressure the programme puts on children to keep watching. Children seem quite happy to take from the programme what they want, and when an item doesn't interest them, to get on with something else.

One five-year-old said of those appearing in the programme: "Sometimes I like them but they're silly." In fact the "silliness" of the presenters is not manufactured, it aims to be quite natural.

Penny Lloyd, an assistant producer and director of *Play School*, says: "The programme is recorded as if it were live, in other words only real disasters or technical problems are cut out. Presenters are encouraged to use their own words all the time, so when the stuffed toys fall over or the models don't stick together

properly they can feel confident to carry on." The programme's calculated lack of slickness gives it an added sense of reality as well as a sense of humour. One presenter, dancing vigorously about while singing a song about the rain, fell over with a thump. She picked herself up and carried on. Another (pregnant) presenter felt her baby kick for the first time while she was on camera. She excitedly reported this happy if irrelevant news and it was left in the programme.

So what makes a good *Play School* presenter? Obviously a talent for story-telling, mime and singing, but what else? Cynthia Felgate looks for "a confident honesty with humour. But they've got to care about the programme, about their audience and they've got to engage the individual viewer on a level of personal warmth." What a presenter must do is involve his audience by being involved himself.

Presenters have varying "shelf lives" on the programme. Some last only three weeks; others

have lasted 19 years. All of them - even the exceptionally silly Brian Cant, who has been a presenter since 1964 and still occasionally contributes - are employed on the basis of a weekly contract, so they're under enormous pressure to succeed. *Play School*'s only permanent stars are Big Ted and Little Ted and the other soft toys and dolls, who are often drummed into service as "extras" in the playlets.

Presenters are selected by audition (Brian Cant claims that he was told at his audition to "get in this cardboard box and row out to sea") and trained as they go along.

Cynthia Felgate says there is no positive discrimination in order to find coloured presenters or presenters with regional accents. "It's a very false thing to do because you end up approaching people who have never dreamt of doing *Play School* and asking them to audition. I have, on occasion, let it be known in a certain sort of professional way that I'd be interested in a certain sort of presenter. I remember hearing to my horror, somebody say of a presenter: 'Oh dear, he isn't black enough'."

Play School tries hard, on the other hand, to counter the traditional sex stereotypes and class images. In an item broadcast recently a little girl watched her father repair his car outside their council house. When it comes to cooking, the male presenter is just as likely to take charge as a female one.

It's part of *Play School*'s unwritten policy to make no assumptions about the circumstances of its audience. For example, a presenter would never say: "You'd better get your mum or dad to help you." They would say: "You'd better get a grown-up to help you."

Some people describe this wholesome sort of protectiveness as "middle-class", a description which infuriates *Play School* workers. Cynthia Felgate explains: "Niceness, acceptability, warmth if you like, has nothing to do with class. Most of the people I've heard use that sort of judgment have been upper-class people with patronizing views about what appeals to ordinary people. What we try and do, particularly in our filmed items is to get out of London, to try and reflect the British Isles. It's very difficult and we haven't always succeeded."

A *Play School* director told me that she researched in a run-down urban area in the north. She visited one home where the mother had redecorated the front room and dressed the child in honour of the visit. In the same area the director visited a social services day nursery catering for children at risk from non-accidental injury. The children were happily watching a filmed item about horses in a field. ("The park", they called it, having no personal experience of fields themselves.) Yet that item was of the sort that the programme's critics would call "middle-class".

The new *Play School* is not that different from the old one. The set has been updated, the titles are slicker and the intended audience is a little older. But if the paint runs, the glue doesn't stick or the pet cockatoo refuses to face the camera, it still won't matter.



Up in the gallery

JOHN MCGOWAN

In her article on the role of galleries in art education (Learning to See, TES, August 12), Frances Spalding describes the problem of presenting contemporary works to young people and how the galleries have faced that task. In my opinion representational works are equally difficult to present as frequently we stop looking at a work once we have identified the subject matter.

During a year at Birmingham Polytechnic, studying for an MA in Art Education, I took the opportunity to make a close study of several art gallery education projects. It seemed to me, at the time, that although what went on inside the galleries was quite exciting there seemed to be little connexion with what had gone on in schools or suggestions made as to how gallery visits might be followed up.

With the cooperation of Northampton Museums and Northamptonshire Education Department, I organized a gallery project that would maximize the involvement of visiting schools in June and July of this year.

Northampton Museum and Art Gallery has a large collection of the paintings and sketch books of Thurston Lindlaw Shosmith (1865-1933). This was to be the central element of the exhibition. Shosmith was a landscape watercolourist with a penchant for carefully composed townscapes of delicately rendered churches. The gallery also had a large collection of his sketchbooks, some of only pocket diary size, that covered his working life.



Northamptonshire Schools were informed about the exhibition project a year before it was to take place and invited to prepare work based on a similar theme of art based on the local environment. Meetings for teachers were held in the autumn term of 1982 to give them some information about the project; later in the year project information packs were made available. These contained slides of the artist's work, notes on the slides, postcards, maps, historical information, teaching suggestions and notes on watercolour technique. Feedback from teachers visiting the exhibition revealed how well some of this material had been used in some schools, especially in the 9 to 11 age range.

The project packs were distributed to the 21 schools who booked places for the art workshops to take place during the exhibition. The packs were financed by a grant from East Midlands Arts who also helped to find a sketchbook project wherein about 1,500 young people were supplied

TALKBACK

with an Art book and asked to work on one of several themes that echoed the artist's way of working. Many of these were later exhibited.

The art workshops were run as half-day sessions over two weeks and were held in the exhibition hall that was half filled with Shosmith's work and half filled with school's work. Although the sessions only lasted about two hours they were filled with a variety of activities: groups were shown an audio-visual programme about Shosmith's life and work, engaged in writing descriptions and responses to three of his paintings, talked in small groups with an adult - sometimes using a tape recorder - to extend their responses to the work and finally shown the sketch books and asked to draw, in the same rapid manner as the artist, from the windows in the upper gallery (that has a magnificent view over the town roofs).

Outside of the school sessions several watercolour workshops were held on Saturday afternoons and many of those who had visited mid-week returned.

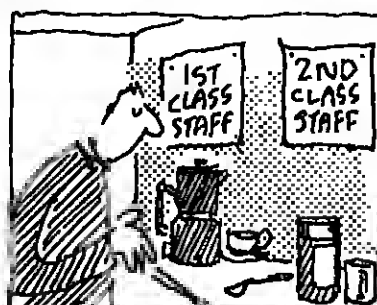
It was both surprising and gratifying to find how much some of the younger participants had learnt about the artist and his work and how quickly they accepted that looking at a painting could be an extended activity. The teachers spoke of their pupils' sense of achievement and of how they had found ways of integrating the work on the Shosmith Project, talking about paintings, working in watercolour, with their general art work.

Although it would be impracticable to try to present every art exhibition in such a manner perhaps art galleries and teachers need to think more about the way in which their activities might be more intimately linked.

John McGowan is head of art at Merway Upper School, Northampton.

Payment by results

HUMPHREY DOBSON



There is such an invariable logic in the plea to pay good teachers more than bad ones that it is certain that a government and public opinion highly critical of the profession will insist that it comes about in some form. It is, therefore, vital that all those concerned in negotiations steer us successfully through the dangers hidden beneath this attractive slogan.

One such danger that has not yet received enough attention is the threat to the well-being of pupils in the bottom half of the academic achievement range.

Education at the less academic pupils has only begun to achieve some degree of respectability during the past decade or so. Headteachers can still be found in secondary schools who take the view that "anyone can teach the thickies".

Much of this, I believe, is a legacy of the nineteenth century notion of payment by results. If your salary depends on how many pupils succeed, you will

react against those who do not.

The hidden danger is that "good" teachers more than "bad" teachers will be those who can't get anything else done. They will want to teach bright, motivated pupils.

Few will volunteer to teach lower ability classes, where there is commonly more difficult work, more often conspicuously lower, the incidence of factors that make progress (social background, problems, personal stress, mental handicap) is much greater.

True, say the administrators, we declare a special consideration for teachers of remedial pupils. But define a teacher of remedial pupils. You presumably have to identify a pupil. And now we see the biggest danger: threat in this system about enhanced salaries for good teachers.

If we are going to pay good teachers more for their success with academic pupils we must disadvantage them. Hence, a return to special classification could be forced on us as the welcome tide of integration gathers strength.

The implication for every teacher that if the public is to pay teachers more, they are going to store by certain qualities of teaching that can be evaluated. The plea made by pupils is one of these: since money is involved someone soon clamour for objective measures of progress.

We must be alert to ensure that, structure does not work against spirit. Warrack by forcing upon, spinners, assessments and standards, with all the dangers of stagnation and self-fulfilling prophecy.

Humphrey Dobson is co-ordinator, special educational needs at Beal School, Stridun.

In love with Africa

By David Sweetman

The Africans: Encounters from the Sudan to the Cape. By David Lamb. The Bodley Head £12.50. 0 370 30968 5.

Two years ago I went to Tombouctou. I had wanted to travel up the Niger but that once great river has virtually disappeared into rivulets with the eternal drought of the last decade. I arrived in a perilous Air Mail plane and was abandoned on the airstrip having been told that this route was unscheduled and that there might be another plane within the week. But everything always seems to work out in Africa. There was another flight in a matter of days and between times a young Moroccan (this was once part of their empire) called Moktar had taken it on himself to ensure that I had a guide and companion and that I should have all the hospitality any visitor merits as a guest of the land.

Sitting outside the Moorish caravanserai, with the moon illuminating the endless desert, sipping a passable French wine, trying to work out why there are so many frogs in a place with zero water, is now one of my happiest memories. Africa has given me many such and I am in love with it. Not that it has been an easy love affair. I was at university in Uganda in the mid-sixties when Milton Obote decided to let Idi Amin, then in charge of his army, get rid of the Kabaka. Up-country on teaching practice I was the only male working in a girl's secondary training college and was unwillingly despatched to Kampala in search of stores. Even wars don't stop African country buses and after a wait by the road-side I duly found one to take me to the capital. Arriving at Mulago roundabout at the foot of the university hill I descended from the bus just as a group of drunken soldiers opened fire on an Asian doctor from the nearby hospital. They made him get out of his car and proceeded to kick the hell out of him. When they'd satisfied their hatred they let him run off and, regrettably, as I felt at the time, he proceeded to run in my direction - we both smashed through the perimeter hedge, leaving our outlines like cartoon characters and with bullets whizzing past us hared it up to the university and safety.

Love involves belief, and I believed in Tanzania and Julius Nyerere for the four years that I worked there. He was my ideal socialist saint and if he wanted me, as I felt he did in a quite personal way, to go out and farm then every available free moment had to be devoted to that task. I broke my back trying to grow onions in Dar es Salaam, whose climate makes Tombouctou seem positively lush. For years I tried to persuade myself that the stories of Tanzania's collapse were the mere rantings of the Western press. I can recall sitting in the Kilimanjaro hotel in Dar with a prominent foreign correspondent. "Take off your glasses," he said. "Now look over there. Would you say that they look like missiles with Chinese markings?" They did but they were of course Agrippa containers but that funny creature painted on one side. Naturally the subsequent article claimed that foreign residents in Dar es Salaam had confirmed the unloading of Chinese missiles. But, no, I have to stop pretending that Tanzania has not fallen apart.

Since university in Kampala I have spent most of my adult life in Africa - from Madagascar to the Gambia, from Tunis to Cape Town. You may therefore imagine my fury when I opened a book pretentiously called *The Africans* and written by someone who has barely spent four years on the continent. Not only that, the upstart had been the co-responder for an American newspaper. I began reading this book in the cerebral equivalent of shaking rage. I ended with con- siderable respect - Mr Lamb is an altogether different breed of journalist to the missile man.

From 1976 to 1980 David Lamb was the African correspondent of the *Los Angeles Times*, based in Kenya but with a continent-wide brief that gave him the scope for this book. But this is far from being a collection of occasional journalism. To understand Mr Lamb's achievement it is necessary to appreciate the tradition in which he sees himself. He takes as his starting point John Gunther's *Inside Africa*, first published in 1953.

It is a brave thing to acknowledge such an antecedent for Gunther's book is now much criticized for its Eurocentric view of Africa and its peoples. But Lamb is right to invoke Gunther in one way. Before *Inside Africa* there was no accessible study of the whole continent in contemporary terms. Africa was ignored and Gunther's best-seller was a revelation in its day. When he wrote no African colony had yet achieved independence: 30 years on independence has come but so has catastrophe. In updating Gunther and acknowledging his predecessor, Lamb is signalling that his book too will be overtaken by events and no doubt pilloried in years to come. But his aim is honourable: to tell the West, mainly America, what has gone wrong in the hope that his reader's sympathies will be aroused.

And one would have to have a heart of stone not to be moved. Europe scrambled



Kenya's numerous ethnic groups, speaking altogether 30 different languages, are the subject of *Portraits of Africa* by Mohamed Amin and Peter Moll (to be published on October 10 by Harvill Press at £18). Above, a Rendile mother grooms her daughter for marriage and (inset) an Okiek girl in circumcision dress.

into Africa, arbitrarily dividing its ethnic groups, creating artificial boundaries and implanting incompatible metropolitan systems - English, French, Portuguese, Belgian, Spanish - wildly different in their methods and standards. After just over a half century of ensat development, greater where there was an advanced settler community as in Kenya and Zimbabwe, dwindling to nothing in places with less economic potential or where the colonists themselves were backward like the Portuguese, Europe then scrambled out of Africa. The British cynically cobbled together impossible democracies: the French replaced themselves with unrepresentative *evolués* elites, the Portuguese were forced out after debilitating violence leaving a shambles behind them. Since then Africa has declined rapidly as these various time-bombs exploded with only three or four countries, virtually colonized by foreign specialists, continuing to function at all well.

To have been in love with Africa these past 20 years is to have been married to an aleoholic - the hinges, the deceptions, the terrible witness of self-destruction have made the relationship impossible. The Idi Amin and the Bokassas are not the prime causes of the collapse, they were merely the worst of the drunken orgies. No, the most insupportable thing has been the failure of the "best" efforts - the socialist experiments of a Nyerere or the mission-based pieties of a Kaunda. These were heartbreaking and hurt most because they engendered hope that the affair could be saved.

I sympathize with Lamb because in his brief stay he too experienced all this. When he describes his first contacts with Africa and its people I can tell so well those signs of affection beginning. But he at least has not given up. His book, far from merely chronicling the disasters, goes on to graso at whatever straws are around to show that there can still be hope. It is here that many will part company with him for he sees hope only in creating a situation where white people can return to work as partners with Africans to save the continent and develop its resources. He gives as examples those few countries that still prosper: Kenya, Zimbabwe, Senegal, Ivory Coast, all with large white populations either as citizens or aid-workers. His greatest wish is for a peaceful transfer of power in South Africa so that that nation might take the lead in developing the rest of the continent. What in effect he is dreaming of is putting back the clock to the minute before independence in an attempt to undo the damage that resulted from the too hasty departure of the whites. Such belief used to be called neo-colonialism and is much despised in Africa, understandably, I respect Mr Lamb's good intentions but clocks can't be put back. I think things will get worse, far worse in most parts of Africa and what the results will be I do not know. But disagreeing with his final hopeful passages does not alter my appreciation of his book. It is the best general survey of contemporary Africa now available and will remain so until someone as thorough as good-hearted as David Lamb comes along to replace it.

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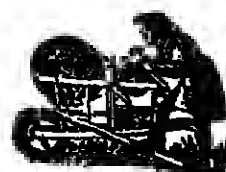
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AXEGRINDER

At our little C of E primary school, few items in God's calendar go unmarked. No sooner have pupils handed in their dinner money and looted their freshly-labelled trays, than they are asked what they will contribute to the coming Harvest Festival. To inspire them, a special poem (complete with picture of farmer's wife, horse-plough, etc.) appears in the foyer:

We thank you, O God, for your goodness
For the joy and abundance of crops
For the food that is stored in our larders

For all we can buy in the shops.
In due course canned soup, baked beans, Mother's Shame, even packets of Omo, are gleamed and displayed in the church. Subsequently they are scattered to needy old folk.

But the school on the right side of



the tracks, tired of hypocrisy, has declared that this year they should have a "real" harvest festival. The parents have responded appropriately. Organic vegetables, only slightly tainted by the drift of insecticide sprays from planes hired by the neighbouring bulk-bartery agri-business, are carted by the Volvo-load from second homes in Suffolk and Wiltshire. Other parents donate locally-grown goodies - notwithstanding the health authority's concern about excessive lead levels in urban allotments.

More "up-market" parents (with million secondaires in Tuscany or Majorca) provide platters of garlic vinegar with bits in, murky olive oil,

cutlitters of *vins de pays* and "Miel des Monts du Limousin (mieux que pas de pain)". There is even the odd item from yet more distant "real" harvests - Greek grapes in insecticide and strings of dried Hungarian peppers - or did these come, perhaps, with the special display haul from the Cypriot baker round the corner?

Only at Culture and Anarchy Camp is the festival unheeded. Instead the year heads set down to deal with an unwanted harvest - a heap of notices about court appearances. Exam results, no jobs for the leavers, bulging YTS schemes and a requirement to lose 10 staff by Easter are other litter vinegars with bits in, murky olive oil,

I felt great empathy with Helen Batchelor ("Talkback" September 2) as she described her shock and horror after the release of her A level results. Her situation, of course, is not unique and is enacted every year at about the same time.

At the heart of her dilemma is the eternal debate of what is education? Many hours were spent on my PGCE course trying to wrestle with this question. I am now entering my fifth year of teaching in further education without really knowing still what "education" is.

We have an exam system, which, in an imperfect world sorts out the chaff from the wheat. I suffered as a border-line case in the old 11-plus exam and the chip-on-the-shoulder suggesting that Helen develops a point in time colour your view of the formal examination system.

Exams are only one part of education and passing them successfully is a skill that often takes a long time to develop. Many people in education realize that there are qualities of a

personal and social nature that cannot be quantified or examined in the formal sense. Fortunately, these qualities will help Helen and others survive in the real world more than formal education will.

It may be small consolation to Helen but she should look at some of the many capable people in education who "failed" the first time (and in some cases the second and third), yet went on to further and higher education by a different route - the mature student route. Sometimes the shortest and quickest route is not always the most scenic or interesting. The longer one will test stamina, determination and ability more than the success of first time achievement. This is not to detract from those who gain good grades the first time; they too suffer setbacks sometimes along the academic road. As a mature university student I witnessed the tears of successful A students on receiving their degree results.

I'm sure this has all been said before, I personally do not regret my early failure to pass exams, some I didn't even bother to take. After

life-experience I came to terms with exams in my twenties and now I enjoy taking them, especially if I don't have to.

To all those like Helen who feel disappointment of failure the way to success is to keep trying. It is not to succeed causes many to give up.

If by writing I can convince Helen and others that all is not lost, that there are people in further and higher education who have experienced the same feelings as she has, I may be doing some of the harm done by this article.

Forget your results, one does not close but there are many ways of learning. The door to learning starts now, your mind is waiting and tolerance is a virtue in the following years. Success in this area will be a more important than any A level. And, knows, you may well gain success in those as well.

Bob Harris teaches at Watley College of Technology, Sandwell.

If at first...

BOB HARRIS



BOOKS

A watchful eye

Stuart Maclure on the perils of running the BBC

A Variety of Lives: A Biography of Sir Hugh Greene. By Michael Tracey.
The Bodley Head £15.00. 0 370 300262.

This is an important book because of the key role Hugh Greene played in changing the values and the image of the BBC in the sixties and the central place it had in the complex set of modifications in manners and morals which ushered in the permissive society. Greene was Director-General from 1960 to 1968. He took office with Harold Macmillan at the height of his powers, when the Conservatives had been in office for nine years, and were about to run out of steam. He left in 1968 when Harold Wilson was beginning to lose his way and reaction along with economic decline was setting in.

The first part of the book, however, lays the foundation for the later years by showing what sort of a man Greene had become during his years as foreign correspondent in pre-war Berlin, as wartime head of the BBC's German service, as architect of post-war broadcasting in the British zone of occupied Germany, in charge of counter-insurgency broadcasting in the Malayan emergency and in a few jobs inside the BBC as protégé of Sir Ian Jacob (whom he succeeded as Director General).

Greene comes across as tough, agnostic, humorous and cynical. People were inclined to doubt if he believed in anything, deep down, but he certainly seems to have had a passionate devotion to a concept of public service broadcasting which was different from Reith's. The case he argued was for an independent broadcasting organization, protected from political interference by a strong DG and a brave board of governors, dedicated to

high quality television and radio in the service of "the people".

The collapse of Reithian paternalistic elitism was precipitated by a combination of circumstances. There was the post-war reaction against deference and the rise of a relatively affluent, relatively unreligious popular culture. There was the arrival of television and the difference between television and radio as a mass medium. There was competition in the shape of commercial television and the political necessity which forced the BBC to compete for audience ratings, sure in the knowledge that they could not indefinitely expect to be financed adequately from a licence fee charged to all unless they could hold on to about half the audience.

All these social and economic developments made it necessary for the BBC to change its tone of voice and deliberately move down market. This meant setting aside Reithian values; the idea of improving public taste and elevating public morals was incompatible with a truly popular broadcasting service in the sixties. This was obvious already to Sir Ian Jacob, Greene's predecessor. It was Greene who presided over the regime which brought about the transformation.

Liko Sir William Haley before him, Greene was, and remained, a journalist and he brought forward the men and women inside the BBC who would apply to broadcasting the same sceptical and questioning methods which elsewhere - in *The Sunday Times*, for instance - were going to change the journalism of the sixties.

The BBC still had its Charter obligations to fairness and balance, but Greene saw no reason why fairness and balance should not go hand in hand with a lively investigation of social issues, both in the areas of news and current affairs, and in drama.

That was the Week that Was, the first (in fact the only real) satire programme, had a dramatic impact (and excellent viewing figures) because it seemed to break new ground by dealing with political and social subjects in a manner, and with a freedom, which had never been attempted before. The irreverent jesting, and the sharp comment, made everybody sit up. All those who were always ready to attack the BBC for any departure from Reithian standards had a field day. But *TV's* expressed public mood and signalled the new order at the BBC: Greene did not invent the programme, but the bright spirits he promoted inside the organization - notably Bamber Gascoigne, Peacock and Goldie - took their lead from him.

But there was also a dreadful silliness about the blows which some felt they had to strike for freedom - the delight in pushing in a dirty joke here, an obscene gesture there, as if colonizing the air waves for foul language and blasphemy was intrinsically meritorious.

Similarly, a new vogue of realism and earnestness overtook the drama department and the Wednesday Play caused one sensation after another because of the subjects chosen and because of the freedom of the language and the determination to push out the limits of acceptable convention in regard to sex and violence.

All the predictable things happened, from Mrs Whitehouse to the politicians. Greene stood his ground for most of the time, keeping a watchful eye on the Chairman of the Governors, first Sir Arthur Forde and then Lord Normanbrook. He clearly felt he was doing right by the BBC and by the creative writers and artists on whom the BBC depended and so, of course, in many ways he was.

Greene ducked and weaved, defending suc-

cessfully for most of the time, but the very freedom he demanded put the notion of broadening at issue. To whom was he accountable? He had no satisfactory answer. The politicians sniped and snapped, *TV's* came off long before the 1964 Election, to head off trouble. Lord Normanbrook stamped on *The War Game* in a warning display of the Governors' strength. Finally, Harold Wilson scotched Greene and put curbs on the BBC by putting Lord Hill into the Chairman's seat and making it clear that Greene was accountable to the Governors and through the Governors to the political engines of the Establishment.

Greene retired, disappointed and frustrated, but what else did he expect? He cannot have expected *carte blanche* and, anyway, the freedoms which he sought to exercise were inherently limited and depended on a succession of necessary compromises. The accountability process remains one in which the BBC has large freedoms. The politicians still snipe and snap and the job of the DG remains one of unremitting vigilance and diplomacy.

Never more so than now, one suspects, with another obviously political nominee as chairman and all the signs that the post-permissive age has begun.

Hugh Greene, himself, comes out as a mixture: one side of him is rather objectionable, shallow, cold and immature in personal relations; the other as strong and effective because he knew how to pick his battles and how to pursue his aims in a series of attainable instalments. The BBC clearly responded to his leadership. This suggests he was a man of high talent because he had to operate at a distance from the main seat of action, knowing exactly where and how to exert pressure.

Yesterday's world

A Social History of England. By Asa Briggs.
Wiedenfeld and Nicolson £11.95. 0 297 78074 3.

Any reader old enough to have been put out to grass from the education machine will remember the Piers Plowman history readers, a pre-war attempt, leaning heavily on the work of the Hammonds, to introduce social history into the elementary school curriculum. Then, in those wartime years, when everyone was reading all those people whose experience of school history had been of a different kind, or who had never got beyond the three-field system, were queuing for copies of G. M. Trevelyan's newly-published *English Social History*, which was Piers Plowman writ large, with a grand synoptic sweep from Chaucer to the Second World War.

Trevelyan's book was, quite literally, an eye-opener for a huge readership, and in one guise or another, has been in print ever since. Every school library and history department has had well-worn copies of the four-volume illustrated version. But in the 40 years since that book appeared, social history has been a growth industry, spawning a dozen flourishing specialisms: local history, labour history, transport history, urban history and oral history.

The time has obviously come for what Asa Briggs calls "a preliminary attempt at a new synthesis, difficult though the task may be". It is certainly difficult, for with every compressed paragraph there is today a specialist with a different interpretation. There is a note of resigned weariness in his remark that "There are two main shortcomings in dealing with almost every period as a brief problem, some of them are sophisticated. Furthermore, it comes to attract theorems and concepts derived from current sociological analysis. These are dan-

gers in the new approach... in particular, it can concentrate more on abstractions than on people". Briggs is not an abstract man, and has brought to the daunting task of, in effect, replacing the Trevelyan book, the stern discipline of compression coupled with the selection of significant detail which come from his work on the pioneering BBC series on *The Long March of Englishmen*. To this there is added the solid experience of his work on nineteenth-century on the impact of steam, of the Chartist and of urbanization.

His span is wider than that chosen for a far longer text by Trevelyan, since he begins in prehistory and ends in 1983, taking in everything en route, from the Black Death to the Black Economy. The series of maps are excellent, and the copious illustrations, imaginatively chosen. What could better evoke Victorian London than the double-page spread in colour of George Elgar Hicks's crowded canvas of *The General Post Office: One Minute to Six*, of the photograph of the last horse-drawn tram in London, plying from Rotherhithe to the Old Kent Road, with in the background, an undertaker's parlour with arched windows, and a child's funeral from 15 shillings.

Inevitably with a book like this, the reader will turn to the final paragraphs to learn what history holds in store. Having warned us that the twentieth century began with a violent gale that blew down one of the upright stones at Stonehenge, Asa Briggs concludes by quoting Ralf Dahrendorf's contention that "the few things more bewildering about the country than the extent to which public debate is pre-occupied with yesterday's world. It is not likely that this will survive for long, or that a Conservative government will be primarily concerned with conserving it." Colin Ward



Top-batted boys at the Westminster School in Vincent Square, 1936. From *Those Were the Days: A Photographic Album of Daily Life in Britain 1919-1939*, introduced by Frances Donaldson (Dent, £10.95). The majority of the photographic recording school days, work, holidays, sport, fashion, royalty, strikes etc. - were taken by Piers News, a famous war agency which was bombed during the war. The negative collection suffered fire and flood damage and were left to rot in a cellar in Fleet Street until last year when they were rescued and restored by Topham Picture Library.

Wonderful in theory

Looking Backward. By Edward Bellamy. Edited with an introduction by Cecilia Tichy.
Penguin £2.50. 0 14 039018 9.

As a novel, *Looking Backward* must be judged a failure. There is very little plot, the characters are two-dimensional and although structural sound, it lacks the richness and breadth of the great literature of social criticism. Yet it is as a social novel, a utopian fantasy, so much so, that its appeal and relevance today matches that which it had when it was first published in 1888. (At that time, such was its effect, that 162 clubs and a magazine were established to disseminate Bellamy's theories.)

The story itself is very simple: in 1887, Julian West, who suffers from insomnia (shades of a conscience perhaps?), is hypnotized and accidentally falls into a deep trance from which he does not awaken until the year 2000. During the in-

terim, America has undergone a profound social revolution. West, representing the ruling classes under whose domination much of the social abuses and inequities of the nineteenth century were perpetrated, is contrasted with Dr. Leete - the twentieth-century ideal (can it only be a coincidence that formerly "leets" were judicial courts and that he is a doctor curing society's ills?) - in whose care he (West) finds himself.

The emphasis on individualism and the capitalist ethic has been replaced by a system of equality in which every man, as a member of the industrial army, serves the nation rather than self-interest. Money is obsolete; payment is in credits (using the forerunner of the modern credit card) of which each citizen holds an equal number. No longer are discrepancies of wealth and status incentives to crime and what few criminals remain are regarded as cases of "etatism" and treated in the hospitals.

The moral and economic principles upon which Bellamy's theory of

BOOKS

Powerful new tool

Teaching Humanities in the Micro-electronic Age. By Anthony Adams and Esmer Jones.
Open University Press £4.95.

There are still heads who think that computers will, like Cuisenaire Rods, the Initial Teaching Alphabet and Civics Lessons, fade away, along with all the other bandwagons which have proudly marched out of the mists, through the brief and blinding light and on into the impenetrable fog of obscurity.

Adams and Jones rightly remind us that microelectronics is not at all like that. For one thing it is going on outside education, which the Initial Teaching Alphabet manifestly was not. As a result, the key phrase - and I wish I had ten bob for every time I have heard it - is "They are here to stay, whether we like it or not".

Another misapprehension is that computers are something to do with maths and not much to do with anything else. What this book does is to correct this limited view, and remind us that what we are talking about here is computer education - with the emphasis upon the latter word. It demonstrates that what we now have is a powerful tool which, correctly used, can broaden the

horizons of the classroom in the arts and social science subjects.

One danger, of course, is that micro-computers in school will be underestimated or simply misused by being limited to drilling and fact-acquisition. The very fact that they are good at this kind of thing - "user-friendly" is the right phrase here - and can turn up the whole business with little pop-eyed animals, buzzing noises and what have you, makes the danger of sticking at that level all the more acute. Adams and Jones have much to say about this, and also point out that some programs which claim to be more sophisticated and open-ended may actually not be so at all. They cite a history program - approved of by the less perceptive - which, despite its use of questions such as "Hello, what is your name?", in fact, nothing more than "a classic example of the so-called comprehension question that can be answered by guesswork without reading a word of the text".

None of this is easy to break out of. For one thing, the construction of, say, simulations in which there is no one correct answer, requires micro-computers of higher memory capacity than the ones initially available for schools. The technology, however, is rapidly catching up.

The good simulation, of the kind which can involve a group or a class in discussion and cooperative decision-making, is one appropriate use. Another is the better kind of "adventure" game, and here too Adams and Jones have much practical advice to offer. They mention - briefly, because it was new when they went to press - *The Hobbit*, an adventure based on the Tolkien book. We have this in school and it is certainly true that exhaustive and continuous use has by no means come anywhere near to finding its limits. There is an exciting potential tool here for the teacher of language or literature.

This is a very useful book. Those schools which already know all that Adams and Jones have to tell them will still find food for thought and perhaps some things with which to argue. Those that still regard the micro with cynicism or suspicion ought to swallow their fears and study it with care.

One obvious problem in this field is that of keeping up to date. There is no easy solution but Adams and Jones - and the OU Press - have done the best possible job, and much of the information is at the time of publication only a matter of weeks old.

Gerald Haigh

Pocket books

The Penguin Dictionary of Chemistry. By D. W. A. Sharp.
Penguin £3.95. 0 14 051 113 X.

The Penguin Dictionary of Telecommunications. By John Graham.
Penguin £2.50. 0 14 051 107 5.

Both these new dictionaries are in fact pocket encyclopedias, and so unfortunately lack any element of etymology, which can give a historical perspective to science. Many chemical compounds, for example, were named when every scientist knew Greek. As it is, old terms in tenuous use, like *monistic acid* for hydrochloric acid, are retained, but distinct theories, like *phlogiston*, are omitted.

The *Penguin Dictionary of Chemistry* has already demonstrated its value. As the only chemist among a group of colleagues, I am occasionally asked about some chemical point, and find the book ideal for reminding me of what I know perfectly well already, and excellent too

for information on subjects that I've forgotten if I ever knew anything about or not.

It is condensed and updated from the 1981 edition of *Miall's Dictionary of Chemistry*, a standard work, by one of its contributors. Attempts to fault his choice of what to include and what to omit have failed miserably, and he has treated the most complex matters with commendable clarity. The *Penguin Dictionary of Chemistry* can be recommended as a first reference source.

Telecommunications is a science in grave need of a dictionary. According to the new *Penguin Dictionary of Telecommunications* terms such as collision, polling and idle character have special meanings impossible to infer from their common usage. On the other hand, "call-back when busy terminal becomes free" hardly needs its eight-line definition.

Almost every entry contains several cross-references, and initials abound. Perhaps one day FPP and CCITT will be as familiar as STD,

but meanwhile even professional telecommunications will probably need a book like this. Given the difficulty of keeping up with a fast-developing science, the book may be more useful as an introduction to its subject, and the publishers recognize this by suggesting it for ninnies and politicians as well as students and teachers.

To fulfury of telecommunications needs to be a bit trendier. There is more potential to television cable transmission than is suggested in its short factual description or in the longer entry on optical fibres. The latter is one of a number of essay-style entries which combine with the technical appendices to give a good introduction to a technology which every one now uses. This dictionary also reveals what seems a fairly unnecessary superfluity of jargon. Telecommunications would be a nasty subject to be examined on.

Judith Mirzoeff

The hole truth

Sugar Off By Richard and Elizabeth Cook.
Orbit Press £3.95. 907351 16 6.

Persons with an *Idée fixe*, like the model railway enthusiast whose only reaction to his wife's pregnancy was a horror at the proposed loss of space for his lay-out, commonly overlook the different priorities of others. Many are the rational adults, and I am not ashamed to count myself among them, who would count a tooth or two well-lost for a weekly dose of chocolate. We would have no place in the orally hygienic world of *Sugar Off*, where even liquorice (and I'm sure they don't mean the all-roses) is at most a twice-monthly treat and Christmas puddings ferment in sugar-free cupboards (sugar being a great preservative).

This is not to deny the Cooks in their anti-pique mission, only to blanch a little at their fervour. They rightly stress the importance of diet progression from *Sugar Off* to *Indigestion* through *Purged* fresh fruits and vegetables to whole and whole-some cereals, salads and meats.

Victoria Neumark

All the raj

British Rule and the Indian Economy 1800-1914. By Neil Charlesworth.
Macmillan £2.95. 0 333 27966 2.

More than a decade ago, Correll Barnett in *The Collapse of British Power* forcefully challenged the continuing assumption that the British Empire had been, on balance, a source of enormous economic advantage to the mother country. In this impressive and highly compressed addition to Macmillan's Studies in Economic and Social History, Dr Charlesworth gives us, in the specific case of India, further grounds for questioning this belief. He surveys many areas of interest: agricultural and land-tenure changes; industrial and commercial enterprise; state intervention; and the role of British trade and investment. The overall impression is of incoherence and enervation engendered by the sheer scale and geographical diversity of the problems posed and by the lack of any single strong unifying developmental impulse. Dr Charlesworth's bibliography is labelled "Select" but is still formidable in its scope.

Martin Fagg

Sound true, come clean

Four Contemporary Novelists. By Kerry McSweeney.
Scolar Press £16.50.

Kerry McSweeney, who works in the English department of a Canadian university, is concerned about the effect that academic theory and criticism have had upon modern novelists, making it hard for them to tell stories about the life around them without self-conscious reference to the nature or art of fiction, constant reminders to the reader that the writer is making something up. Here he brings together a quartet of serious, ambitious novelists who have been able to combine "the inevitable self-consciousness of the present day with the representational and communicative strengths of the traditional novel". Angus Wilson, Brian Moore, John Fowles and V. S. Naipaul, he says, are writers who "have made the reader-writer contract more complex" but have "never undermined its representational basis".

Brian Moore is an Ulsterman who moved to Canada and then the United States. His most popular novel, *The Luck of Ginger Coffey*, was a plausible and informative comedy about the sufferings of an Irish immigrant in Canada. Moore's work has been generally studied in the context of Canadian or Northern Irish writing. Similarly, V. S. Naipaul's work is most often discussed in the context of "Commonwealth literature". He is a Trinidadian of East Indian background; his early stories of Caribbean life fascinated readers with exotic information. Since then he has become an expert on the Third World, morosely contemplating societies which seem "marginal" - formless suburbs of the world.

D A N Jones

Making sense of teaching Geography

Assignments in Physical Geography

Melvyn Jones and Brian Walsh
New! £2.95

Concerned with structured questions. There are 3 broad sections: ★ Land forms, ★ Climate, soil and vegetation, ★ People and the natural environment.

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David Waugh New! £3.95 An Area Studies title
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Considers land as a resource, with increasing demand, pressure and policy shaping the way the land is used. Also discusses how policies are formulated to maximise this resource.

Office Location John Bale New! £2.75

A Geography and Change title
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Industrial Location

Michael Day, Iain Meyer and Susan Day
New! £4.35 An Applied Geography title

Uses the ideas and techniques of modern geography to explain a variety of industrial locations and patterns. Provides excellent material for use in any systematic or regionally based course.

To obtain inspection copies, please return the form to:
UK Publicity Dept., FREEPOST, Nelson House,
Maidenhead, Wiltshire, SL6 6NS.

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BEDFORDSHIRE
BARNET STREET NURSERY SCHOOL, Barnet, Herts. LU1 1BA. Tel: 0456 511111. Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of this Nursery School. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school and will be expected to develop and improve the standards of the school. The post is full-time and involves a 40-hour week. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Bedfordshire County Council, Bedford, MK43 8AP. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

Deputy Headships

Second Masters/Mistresses

Other Appointments

Headships

Deputy Headships

Second Masters/Mistresses

Other Appointments

Headships

Deputy Headships

Second Masters/Mistresses

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Youth and Community Service

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Administration

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Education Psychologists

Examiners

Holidays and Accommodation

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Wiltshire

PRIMARY EDUCATION

HEADTEACHER POSTS

BRINKWORTH COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
School Hill, Brinkworth, Chippenham SN15 5AX
Group 2 N.O.R. 89

Head Teacher required from 1st January 1984. This is a full-time post for a Head Teacher of a primary school of 100 pupils. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school and will be expected to develop and improve the standards of the school. The post is full-time and involves a 40-hour week. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Wiltshire County Council, Wiltshire House, 100 High Street, Wiltshire, Wiltshire. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

DERRY HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL
Group 3 N.O.R. 118
(Re-advertisement)

Required from January 1984 for a Head Teacher who is a member of the National Union of Teachers. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school and will be expected to develop and improve the standards of the school. The post is full-time and involves a 40-hour week. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Wiltshire County Council, Wiltshire House, 100 High Street, Wiltshire, Wiltshire. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

SCALE TWO POSTS
LIDEN INFANTS SCHOOL
Liden Drive, Swindon SN1 1EX
Headteachers: Miss M. J. Hurley
Estimated N.O.R. January 1984 - 285

Required January 1984: Permanent Scale 2 Teacher. Experienced Infant teacher required to work in a co-operative teaching situation and to be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Wiltshire County Council, Wiltshire House, 100 High Street, Wiltshire, Wiltshire. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

SCALE ONE POSTS
CHRIST THE KING RC SCHOOL
Earle Court Road, Avebury SP4 7LX
Group 5 N.O.R. 249

Scale 1 Teacher required for January 1984, to teach Latin. Proficient Catholic preferred. Music an advantage. Written letters of application to be sent to the Chairman of Governors, Father John Owen, 100 High Street, Avebury, Wiltshire. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Chairman of Governors, Father John Owen, 100 High Street, Avebury, Wiltshire. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

LAVERSTOCK ST ANDREW'S CE AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL
16 Church Road, Laverstock, Salisbury
Group 3 N.O.R. 72

Scale 1 Teacher required for January 1984 for infants. Proficient Christian preferred. Experience or interest in Computer and Music. Written letters of application to be sent to the Headmaster, starting date, giving details of education, training and experience and also the names and addresses of two referees by Friday 7 October 1983. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

OKAYSE CE CONTROLLED SCHOOL
The Street, Okayse, Melksham SN18 5TG
Group 1 N.O.R. 37

Required from 1st January 1984 a Scale 1 Infant Teacher, for a two term appointment. This post is temporary to cover for a teacher on maternity leave. Music would be an advantage. Written letters of application to be sent to the Head Teacher, starting date, giving details of education, training and experience and also the names and addresses of two referees by Friday 7 October 1983. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

STAVERTON CE CONTROLLED SCHOOL
School Lane, Staverton, Trowbridge BA14 8NZ
Group 2 N.O.R. 62

Permanent Scale 1 Teacher required for January 1984 to teach First and Second Year Juniors. Must have had recent teaching experience. Applications from and returnable to the Head Teacher. Closing date: 10th October 1983. 100010

SECONDARY EDUCATION

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER POSTS

THE JOHN OF GAUNT SCHOOL
Wingfield Road, Trowbridge BA14 8EH
Group 12 N.O.R. 1,400

Applications are invited for the post of Deputy Head Teacher of the John of Gaunt School, Trowbridge, which falls vacant on the resignation of the present Deputy Head Teacher on 30th September 1983. It is hoped to fill the post with effect from 1st January 1984. As the Deputy Head Teacher (First Deputy) has been in post only since Easter 1982, there will be a considerable amount of work to be done in the first term. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Wiltshire County Council, Wiltshire House, 100 High Street, Wiltshire, Wiltshire. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

SCALE THREE POSTS
RIDGEWAY SCHOOL
Inverary Road, Wroughton, Swindon, Wiltshire
Tel: Swindon (0793) 612824

Required from January 1984 at this well established purpose-built mixed 11-16 comprehensive school with 1,200 pupils. Well qualified Deputy Head of English to join a lively department and to be responsible for the school library. Experience of Librarianship essential. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Wiltshire County Council, Wiltshire House, 100 High Street, Wiltshire, Wiltshire. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
MILTON KEYNES AREA
PRINCE OF WALES COUNTY
Nursery, Milton Keynes

Headship - Group 1
The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school and will be expected to develop and improve the standards of the school. The post is full-time and involves a 40-hour week. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Buckinghamshire County Council, Buckingham House, 100 High Street, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

BOLTON
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
CORLEY NEW ROAD C.P.
Corley New Road, Horwath, Bolton

Headship - Group 1
The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school and will be expected to develop and improve the standards of the school. The post is full-time and involves a 40-hour week. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council, Bolton House, 100 High Street, Bolton, Greater Manchester. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
MILTON KEYNES AREA
PRINCE OF WALES COUNTY
Nursery, Milton Keynes

Headship - Group 1
The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school and will be expected to develop and improve the standards of the school. The post is full-time and involves a 40-hour week. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Buckinghamshire County Council, Buckingham House, 100 High Street, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

MILTON KEYNES AREA
PRINCE OF WALES COUNTY
Nursery, Milton Keynes

Headship - Group 1
The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school and will be expected to develop and improve the standards of the school. The post is full-time and involves a 40-hour week. The successful candidate will be expected to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. The salary is £10,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Buckinghamshire County Council, Buckingham House, 100 High Street, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire. Closing date: 7 October 1983. 100010

BOLTON
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
CORLEY NEW ROAD C.P.
Corley New Road, Horwath, Bolton

Music

Scale 1 Posts

HARROW

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
CHANGE MIDDLE SCHOOL
Middlesex Road, Harrow.
Middlesex HA2 9RJ
Tel 01-422 5079

Class Teacher/Music Co-ordinator required for 1994 or sooner at this lively middle school, with 2 pupils on roll. The successful candidate will be expected to teach the full range of middle school curriculum.

Application forms to
further details from and to
be returned to The Banding
by 1st October 1983. Plea
enclose stamped address
envelope. £11.089t 123

DEONDSHIRE
NORTHERN AREA
HOLLYWELL MIDDLE
SCHOOL
Rat Lion Close, Cranfield,
Hudds.
Headmaster Mr T.F. James
Tel: Bradford T50831
9.15 a.m. to 3.15 p.m.
on roll 530 approx.
Required for Quality 199
teacher of Craft, Design
Technology, Basic & to
children in the 10 - 15
range. The successful ap
cant must be versatile
nble to offer a wide rang
crelts - including woodw
plastic and pottery.
Application forms
further details Trade M

Other than by Subject
Classification

Scale 1 Posts

BARNESLEY
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
COUNCIL

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
MILFIELD MIDDLE
SCHOOL
Engine Lano, Orimatherpe
Chemistry
(0 - 3) Mixed - No on roll
403)
HEADTEACHER: Mr C.J.
Gaski, M.Ed.
Inquired for September 11
A GENERAL SUBJECTS C
Teacher (Scale 1) to teach
Initially in the 4th year.
A commitment to school
involvement in the community
and extra curricular activities
is important.
Applicants should spe
the presence of special inte
but not more of PE/Ar
Science, Music, Art or Dr
would be particularly

Application forms available and returned to headteacher at the school as soon as possible. (17030) 195

NORTHUMBRLAND

IN THOMLINSON'S CE
PRIMARY
 5, Morton Lane, Rothbury,
 Northumb. NE65 7JH
 Tel: Rothbury 20487
 Group 4, 9 - 13
 Comprehensive, 127 pupils
 Recruited from 1st June
 1984, residential
 (Male 1), in 1988 in sch
 and in conjunction with a
 (Male 1) 42 children

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**BOROUGH OF
NESIDE
COMMITTEE
MIDDLE SCHOOL
Whitley Bay
NE25 9AQ
ER Group 8**

Supporting letters are invited
and Deputies for appointment
successful candidates will be
an appointmant from the
r Term 1984 i.e. 30th April.
r details are available on
ed envelope from:
n.

North
TYSON

Some like it cold

Christopher Portway goes dog-sledging in Greenland

A high-contrast, black and white photograph showing a group of people, likely laborers, walking in a line across a field. They are carrying large bundles or loads on their backs, suggesting a scene of forced labor or migration. The image is grainy and has a stark, almost graphic quality.

Photo: Christopher Portway

School

School

Venture Weeks

Western's new line
bring

bring

Learning

Learning to live

to life.

UNIT 1

A School Venture Week is much more than just a school trip. It takes education out of the classroom and into the open air.

There are eight centres in Wales, Sussex, Essex, and the West Country, and two Boating Centres on the River Thames and the Norfolk Broads.

At each of these sites we provide all the facilities, and you choose which you want to be part of your school's programme. From computer studies and clay modelling to film-making and fossils.

Schoolchildren can take a new look at an old subject, or try something completely different.

Which gives you a chance to extend the classroom. And the children a chance to extend themselves.

This year we'll be catering for 40,000 schoolchildren. All of whom we hope will learn a lot, both about their subjects and themselves.

What's more, School Venture Weeks start at only £41 per week. That's because we're organised

To find out more, just fill in the coupon for the brochure.

Please send me details of School Venture Weeks in 1994 for children 8-14. To: Pat Winterford, Young, Freepost, School Venture Weeks, 21 Southernhay West, Exeter EX1 1PR. Tel: Exeter (03922) 59815.

Name _____

Position _____

School _____

Address _____

School Venture Weeks 1994

57/99

School Venture Weeks, Part of the Educational Support Service of Buntingford.

[illegible]

EXTRA

Some like it cold

continued

overnight sojourn in a tent or a cabin where the dawn presents a sight to be remembered long after the event.

One point of arrival is Narssarsuaq, originally an American airbase with its former mess hall turned into the simple but expensive Arctic hotel. Three hours down-fjord by icebergs-dodging motorboat is Narssarsuaq, Greenland's second "town" (after Godthaab, the capital) of about 1,800 citizens, a number of neat little hotels, a restaurant of surprising sophistication and a supermarket or two where food and provisions, subsidized by the Danish Government, can be purchased at near-British prices.

With easy reach of both places are the excavated sites of Brattahlid, home of Eric the Red and his Vikings, the iceberg-spawning Qooruq Glacier at the head of the fjord littered with its offspring in sensational hues of blue and green; and Igilik, a tiny village and sheep station among meadows of green grass, barley and an abundance of wild flowers that stand beside yet another fjord ringed by mountains. To walk and camp in such a summer landscape is the elixir for the visitor in search of a world unsoiled by human avarice.

But if the short summer season in Greenland can be a heady experience it can be matched by that provided by an unbelievable winter.

For my winter visit I landed from Helgi Jonsson's spruce little Mitsubishi air taxi on the lonely air strip at Kulissuk on the east coast, some 360 desolate miles north of Narssarsuaq. Our small group had flown from Reykjavik airport and we were to continue the journey by helicopter across a brilliant white border of mountains to the township of Angmagssalik perched above the frozen waters of the fjord of the same name.

The reason for this second visit was to go dog-sledding; surely one of the more original variations of winter-sporting and for this we were based at Kelly Nicolaisen's warm and cosy Angmagssalik Hotel with views over the town and fjord as magnificent as that of the most sensationally-aided Alpine hostelry anywhere.

As well as being a township, a hotel and a fjord, Angmagssalik is also an island about 20 miles across though, with the fjord frozen and snow-covered, this is not apparent. The town's main occupation is fishing and, in winter, its boats lie gripped in 10 feet of ice. For winter visitors it is a region worth exploring with icebergs as destinations in a winter vastness. Cross-country skiing is another activity while, for photographers, a totally absorbing trip is the helicopter tour to the Helheim glacier and the edge of the great ice-cap. But I had come for the dog-sledding.

Following a preliminary afternoon's sledge-ride over the fjord, our first full

day's journey was across the island to the tiny hamlet of Ikoteq housing just seven families who live by hunting seal and polar bear. It is an exciting route, made more so by some long, steep descents - which become gruelling ascents on the return trip - through mountain passes and over frozen lakes amid enthralling scenery.

About the only "skill" needed for sledge-travel is the ability to hang on for, on the downhill slides, the sledge, hauled by between eight and twelve friendly Greenland huskies, swings alarmingly from side to side while taking the bumps - at speed. Both Eskimo driver and his dog-teams are of varying abilities, the former's braking techniques - whether using the ground-scraper brake iron at the rear of the sledge or simply by inserting the dog-whip handle between the runners - being somewhat rudimentary.

Dog-teams are invariably hostile to one another so that mass-fights are all too frequent, whether on the move or when stationary. Again on the steeper downhill sections a speeding sledge is liable to catch up with its fast-running dog-team which results in chaos of tumbling, yelping, sometimes dragged huskies, with the driver frantically attempting to untangle a cats-cradle of cord dog-leads, whipping-in of the idle or disobedient, and wild cursing of all and sundry.

The whipping process is more crack than sting and the yelping results more from anticipation of punishment than

its actual implementation. Forget all about the word "mush". No dog that I know understands it. One's driver uses a dog-language incomprehensible to you and I but it is plainly understood by the tail-wagging fraternity he commands. But beware. Dugs fed on an exclusive diet of dried fish produce some powerful aromas!

On the severest uphill gradients riders are encouraged to alight and help hand the sledge not so much by the demands of conscience as for the opportunity to obtain much-needed exercise and the generation of warmth since the face, feet, hands and buttocks fast succumb to temperatures many degrees below freezing. Not that walking conditions are perfect, with patches of soft snow trapping a foot up to the knee at every step.

Our one-day sledge "trek" whetted the appetite for the three-day "safari" that followed. This took us diagonally across the island to the larger village of Tiniteqiloq, by way of the Asingaleq Glacier and offering breath-taking views over the Semilik fjord. At Tiniteqiloq we were based in a snow-hidden wooden cabin equipped with basic amenities that included the wherewithal for simple cooking, though the only source of water was that from boiled ice.

From here we spent an intriguing day attaining the "mainland" across a flat fjord, stopping to inspect seal traps en route. Two seals were netted in our presence, the intent of one becoming the mainstay of our meal

that night. Even ensconced in a warm blanket the local icebergs displayed their muted colourings, hinting at their true glory reserved for the spring melting of the snows.

Most of the 400 members of Tiniteqiloq's population were on hand to see us off the third morning, their numbers swelled by a dozen youngsters of the British Schools Expedition (T.E.S. January 1983) who appeared suddenly in our midst. A coloured ring encircling the sun boded ominous change in the hitherto fine weather, though for the run home there was not a cloud in a blue sky. Only on our last days at Angmagssalik did the blizzard strike, descending upon the town and delaying by two days our departure but offering us yet another facet of a vast territory as yet unknown by mankind.

Warm clothing and insulated footwear for winter, and trekking gear in the summer months is the norm for visitors to Greenland. Such items may be obtained from firms such as Kemmure, Berghaus and Black's. In winter cameras are liable to freeze up so a camera bag is desirable.

For both summer and winter activities in Greenland, Twickenham Travel of 84 Hampton Road, Twickenham, Surrey, can undertake arrangements for both group and individual visits as well as stop-over facilities in Iceland if required.

Book: Greenland (David & Charles)

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Bright
shores

Bradley Winterton
explores the
Wadden Islands

Dutch mornings seem to shine with an
unparalleled brilliance, and on the
sandy Wadden Islands, strung out in
an archipelago along the north coast
of Europe, they seem to shine clearest
of all.

West to east they are Texel (pronounced "Tessel" and reached by
drive-on-drive off ferry from Den
Helder), Vlieland and Terschelling
(reached from Haringen, itself a
beautifully preserved seaport), and
Ameland and Schiermonnikoog (from
Holwerd and Lauwersoog respectively).

All between 10 and 15 miles long,
and only a couple broad, the islands
share essentially the same topography
- oblong, bold, sandy coast to the
north, pounded by whatever breakers
the North Sea can muster and backed
by extensive dunes, and a quiet, level
southern side of sea-marshes (kwelder),
and below sea-level pastures
(polder) protected by a sea wall.

Though these islands have much of
their attractiveness in common, there
are differences too. Vlieland and
Schiermonnikoog are the tranquil
ones, small and car-less, whereas
Texel is large, with stronger connections
with the mainland, Terschelling
and Ameland come between these
and are both very popular with Dutch
and German tourists; Ameland tends
to cater more for families, whereas
parts of Terschelling have found
favour with the Amsterdam young.

Quite the finest way to see any of
the islands is by bicycle, to cycle at low
tide on the hard sand along the sea's
edge for perhaps 10 miles, and then 10
miles back again.

Wild nature is the real attraction.
Birds and seals abound, and there are
even deer on Ameland, descendants of
said of an old stag driven from his
mainland herd by the young bucks and
forced to swim out to these desolate
outposts. Sympathetic and canny
locals were quick to import a mate to
keep him company.

The marshes, dunes, pastures and
mud-flats all have their distinct eco-
systems, and to see them so minutely
studied and so close together, and then
repeated with variations like themes
in music, is very beautiful.

The Wadden Islands are places of intense
and special beauty. Only occasionally



flooded by the sea, they are salt
meadows, what in East Anglia are
called "salttings". Sea lavender and
marsh samphire flourish here, mauve
and grey flowers uniquely accommo-
dated to this salt but dry environment.

The essence of Holland's landscape
is an exquisite softness, and this,
together with an almost mystical fin-
ness, seems to harmonize with much
in the Dutch character - their tolerant
mildness, their domesticity, their equi-
table nature and equitable social in-
stitutions.

It is typical of the relaxed Dutch
reasonableness that nudism on the
beaches goes generally unnoticed. On
most of the islands it is prohibited only
on specified beaches - a neat reversal
of the usual European practice.

The Wadden Sea, separating the
islands from the mainland, is itself a
natural wonder. Not yet two thousand
years old, it is still only a sea at high
tide; at low water it becomes mud-flats
through which a few channels wind.
The ferries ply their way along these
tenuous deeps, following lines of
skeletal saplings, inverted broom-
sticks stuck in the mud, impermanent
because the channels themselves are
impermanent.

This sea can even be crossed on foot
at low tide, and groups of "Wadlop-
ers" stride off to the mainland in
summer carrying two-meter poles to
test the depth of the deceptive shal-
lows.

Such an area of revealed mud and
sand-bank is, of course, of major
importance to birds, and the Wadden
Sea is a resting place for vast numbers
of migrants, some travelling from the
Barents Sea to the Equator via this
final outpost of the great German
deltas.

The northern part of Holland off
which these islands lie is known as
Frisland, and the ferries are crowded

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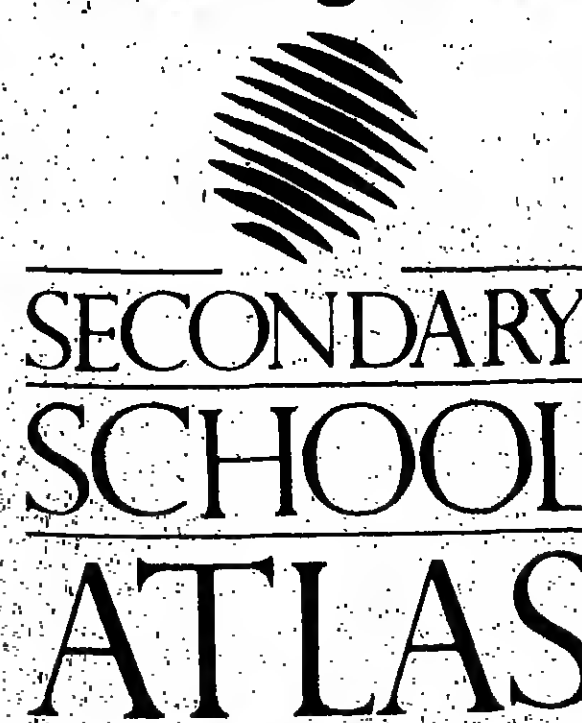
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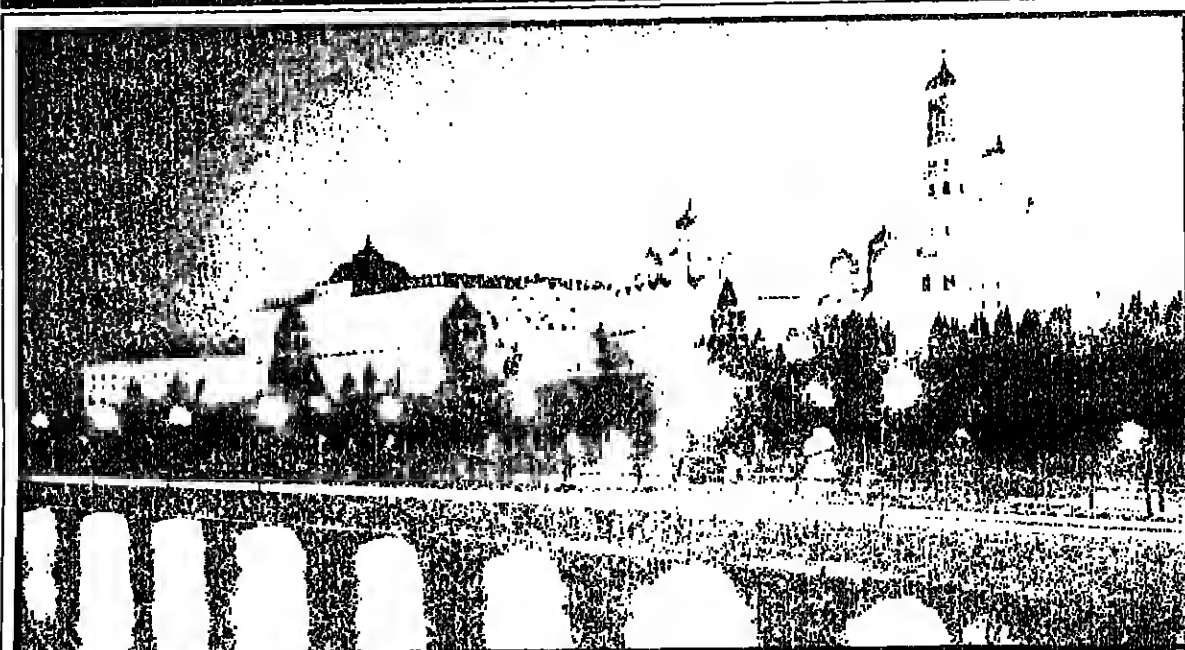
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EXTRA



The Kramlin at night

Behind the iron arras

By Adeline Hartcup

Even for the most determined opponents of package travel, some parts of the world are best explored that way. Our one-week visit to the USSR by Thomson Holidays convinced us of this. Without knowing people there or speaking and reading the language, to go there independently would have been exhausting and expensive, and we would have seen and discovered much less.

Our package provided three nights in Leningrad and four in Moscow, air travel both ways, full board in central, luxury hotels, rail transport between the two cities, and the services of Thomson representatives as well as the impressively professional tour guides. We went in mid-March and paid a basic £260 each; optional extra trips cost us a further £55.

The tour guides accompanied all trips, introducing landmarks and commenting en route - not altogether objectively, to put it mildly - on Soviet life and Russian history. They were all attractive, friendly, youngish women who had spent at least two years studying English (and sometimes other languages too) before a third year of training for the job of introducing visitors to the USSR.

The words "our country" cropped up very often in the commentaries. Inevitably, the guides dished out to us the Party propaganda on which they had been fed. Soviet history teachers must have short memories: a bright young Lithuanian guide was no less strong than the others on the Party line.

There was a choice of alternative "trips" and no need, of course, to take any of them. An art historian chose to spend all his time at the Hermitage and Pushkin collections, and preferred to go there on his own. Organized, guided visits to art galleries are tantalizing and frustrating; so much has to be passed by or seen scrappily from one's place in the crowd. But independent gallery-goers have to queue endlessly at the entrance, and merely to find one's way round those vast, magnificent collections would be a problem. Even to those who have done their homework on the Russian alphabet, familiar names like Van Gogh and Poussin look very strange in Cyrillic letters.

Most of the trips on offer were excellent, and there was a free half-day tour of the city. The Leningrad programme included visits to the main museums, to opera and ballet at the Kirov (the old Mariinsky) Theatre, to the circus, to the Metro, and a twenty-

mile drive to Pushkin (Tsarskoe Selo, the old Summer Palace of the Tsars), which was destroyed during the last war and is still being lavishly and faithfully rebuilt.

The heart of the Moscow programme was of course Red Square, and the Kremlin with its splendid churches, Lenin's tomb and the heavy presence of the Soviet government. We were even told that one of the dark windowed black limousines we saw driving in through the main Kremlin gate was taking Mr. Andropov to his morning's work.

Moscow trips also included Tolstoy's home town, the Museum of the Red Army, the Lenin Museum, ballet at the Bolshoi Theatre, the permanent Exhibition of Economic Achievements of the USSR, the magnificent Pushkin Fine Arts Museum, a kindergarten on a housing estate, and a sample of Moscow's ornate Metro stations.

The conducted visits had several advantages. The tour guides were well briefed, travelling by coach saved time, and - most valuable of all - we unashamedly craved queues and ticket barriers. In the USSR, entrance to theatres and galleries, like other desirable commodities, is in short supply. They solve the problem, not by raising prices as we decadent capitalists do, but by graft and by priority for tourists. Our tickets for good seats in top performances - *Les Sylphides* at the Kirov and *Rheingold* at the Bolshoi - cost £3 each at our hard-currency rate, so would be even cheaper in roubles. But the audiences look as sophisticated, elegant and unpretentious as their Covent Garden counterparts.

The company of our fellow-packagers was an unexpected pleasure. In the USSR, local people are difficult to talk to, and it is not only the language barrier that scotches an exchange of ideas. So it was good that we enjoyed the company which, like greatness on Malvolio, was thrust upon us.

We were a very mixed bag, a heterogeneous cross-section of ages, outlooks, jobs, classes and English home-districts. We were united by our interest in the USSR, by being thrown together willy-nilly for meals and excursions every day, and by being - for this one week - all in the same boat. In the same bus, should we say? So it was interesting to compare impressions and experiences.

In one week a wide range of impressions became a group of friends

Among our new friends were an antiquarian, a football referee, two accountants, an anaesthetist, a builder, an obstetrician, an educational psychologist, and four *inverses of family* who travelled together from Yorkshire without their husbands and children.

Of course "real Russians" who speak English or some other western language, and will talk openly, are precious as eweats to European visitors. We were lucky - through a friend who recently worked in Moscow as part of his Russian course at an English university - to have such introductions in each city. Our two evenings with them were highlights of our visit. Both were young men in their early twenties, intelligent, well-informed, humorous, and with western contacts. Both, one way or another, were stymied by the régime. Most people, they said, were dissidents but saw no hope of change. They had in Lenin to live with it.

Would they like to leave? Yes, said Dmitri, but he couldn't. Sergei had relations outside Russia, so might be able to. But it would mean leaving home, country, family, friends and career to go where he would always be a foreigner. If he stayed in the USSR the duplicity and danger would never end, and his children would be brainwashed from their first days at school. Blank options.

Did we then see why the Tourist walls prescribed for us? Probably yes, apart from our Russian contacts and our romances in streets, parks, shops, buses and trains. One day we found ourselves with our guide, at an orthodox funeral service. Two old women lay in open coffins while around them ancient *babushkas* mourned them, chanting in antiphony with a censer-swinging priest. Most of us felt intrusive and embarrassed. Why ever did they let us barge in on such a solemn, intimate occasion? A social worker from Durham was less naive. "To show us, of course, that such things go on," she answered; and no doubt was right.

Another day we saw a huge crowd queuing in the street. "What are they waiting for?" someone asked our guide. "I see no queue," she answered, inconvertible as Nelson on a different occasion.

Nevertheless it was a great week, strenuous, stimulating, saddening and enjoyable. We warmly recommend it. But try to live up to some English-speaking Russians behind the arras.

This other Eden

Books about Britain reviewed by Francis Kellaway

Quantitatively, this is a somewhat thin year for books about Britain, but happily those under survey here are all well above average quality.

One series, oddly, does not seem to have been taken up by a leading publisher. F.H. Storky issues his own books from High Wycombe, Haydon Vale, Devon. *Exploring Dartmoor* and *Exploring Dartmoor Again* (each £2.45) are pleasantly produced introductions to lesser-known aspects of the moor. Each details 21 modest walking expeditions, with full directions about cut-parks, distances, essential precautions and things to look for and enjoy. *Dartmoor Crosses* (£2.60) offers a similar approach while concentrating on the various, usually granite, crosses which are so commonly encountered.

These handy, pocketable, books will enliven many a visit. But for the traveller who really wishes to understand "the last great wilderness in Britain" there is now one essential work. Eric Henry has a lifelong reputation as guide and writer. His magnum opus, *High Dartmoor* (Robert Hale, £50) firmly establishes him as the definitive authority. This is a large book (nearly 1,000 pages, some 500 illustrations and maps) in the style of a travel guide, but it is a joy to handle and read.

Mr Henry is concerned at least as much about people as about places. This in his descriptions of the many facets of Dartmoor (geology, archaeology, flora and fauna, and of course topography) he constantly refers to the people who have, through the ages, lived and worked there. He distinguishes legend and fact, includes a glossary of local terms, shows how settlements have evolved and decayed, covers industry, farming and tourism, and above all describes the terrain in comprehensive detail.

Each feature of the moor is presented in vivid text which conveys a knowledge and understanding of the region in student and visitor alike. True, occasional tourists may not spend £50 on one guide book, but even they will miss out if they do not borrow a library copy. For those who really appreciate Dartmoor and want a complete work for constant reference, there is no substitute. *High Dartmoor*.

An equally wild and remote area, but one which attracts less publicity, is the *Torridon Highlands*. Brenda Macrow's classic book with this title is again available from Robert Hale (£8.95) with an up-dating by F.H. Storky who notes the impact of tourists, oilrigs and modern transport.

Another Hale publication *Finnia* (£8.50) by Sheila Geir opens with the ominous phrase "Few people ever come out to Finia" and there is some implication that the 40 or so residents are quite content that it is so. For this tiny island, 14 miles west of the mainland of Shetland, has its own way of life in which pleasures and hardships mingle. Only those who have experienced such a life can understand its appeal, but readers of this excellent book will obtain a comprehensive, if secondhand, appreciation of a remote piece of land and its character, legends, wildlife and year-long activities.

More conventional tourist activities are well covered by the *Ward Line* series of regional guides. Two just issued deal with *Scotland* and with *South-East England and East Anglia* (each £3.95). Tours based on well-known centres like the motorist to the highlights of towns, villages and country. Inevitably selective when a great slice of Britain is packed in 160 pages, there is nevertheless reliable information in plenty upon which to decide where to go and what to see en route and on arrival.

Complementary inducements to travel spring from the scintillating collections of annotated colour photographs in a pair of Country Life Picture Books, *Royal Scotland* and *Royal London* (each £7.95). There is a wide interpretation of the regal links, so that Henry Moore's controversial

statue of King and Queen (at Shalwood, Dumfries) and Alnwick's city cross (because it commemorates the Stuart dynasty) appear in one volume, while Wimbledon tennis and the British Museum are featured in the other.

But all the castles and palaces, parks and recreational areas, these too, Country Life books are normally of high quality. These deserve superlatives.

Again, it would be hard to overpraise the contributions of the Ordnance Survey in their enhancement of the satisfactions of travel. A new venture is a series of leisure guides published in conjunction with the Automobile Association. Including sections of the Survey's 1 to 25,000 (or 2½ inches to one mile) map, the first title *New Forest* (£4.95) has a gazetteer, articles on many aspects of the forest, 14 routes for walks, and full information about holiday and recreational facilities.

While all this is reminiscent of the Forestry Commission's guide *Explore the New Forest*, first published in 1975, it is more the worse for that. Especially to be welcomed in the new leisure guide is the emphasis on the country guide. It is vital that trippers respect the land, and preserve the very things they come to see but which are all too easily destroyed by thoughtlessness, bad manners and vandalism.

The Ordnance Survey, allied this time to the Temple Press, also bring new ground with a *Read Atlas of Great Britain* (£7.95). Covering the country on a scale of 1 to 250,000 (or 1 inch to 4 miles) it has, in addition, town plans, an index to some 32,000 place names, and route-planning maps.

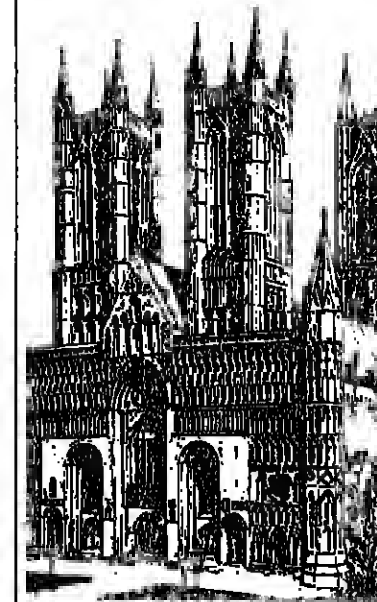
A *Motoring Atlas* (also Ordnance Survey and Temple Press) is a bargain at £3.25. In limbo covers, it carries the same information as the Road Atlas, but on a larger scale of 1 inch to 3 miles and with a much larger page.

On a larger scale still (1 to 100,000 or 1 inch to 1.6 miles) the *RAC Navigator* covers most of the country in four attractive volumes, priced around £5 each. In full colour, these have town access maps, street plans and leisure activity directories. Regularly up-dated, they are a boon to travellers generally.

So, too, is the Automobile Association's *Illustrated Touring Atlas of Britain* (£8.95). In sturdy stiff cover it carries on facing pages clear maps and notes on the more interesting places and features of that section. Good photographs and an index add to the value.

Value is also the keynote of three other works which, breaking away from any standardised guide book approach, have an individual character. *Images of the Downs* (Macmillan, £9.95) with photographs by John Moore and text by Caroline Hilder, conveys the spirit of the chalkland of southern England. Along the coast from Kent to Dorset, and inland to Wiltshire and Oxfordshire, the book ties have something in common, but more than that is individual.

The people, animals and plants that have been conditioned by the chalk have been sympathetically portrayed. Illustrations are magnificent, buildings and humble tracks are all welcome. There is a little, but not irrelevant, overlap with some of the other volumes. *Hardy's Wessex* (Macmillan, £9.95) by Desmond Hawkins, using Hardy (who has been called our most popular novelist) as a dominant figure, explores the landscape of Wessex, the land of the Wessex, the land of the Wessex. The book is a celebration of an exploration. Outside the established holiday resorts (Weymouth, Lyme Regis and the like) the countryside is largely neglected by tourists. Mr Hawkins shows what they are missing. More familiar places are described in the *Middle Murches* (Robert Hale, £9.50) by H. Baker with illustrations by M. Morris. The country for the Severn and Wye confluence, the area, Hereford and Worcester, the



Lincoln Cathedral

This other Eden

continued

Malvern, Ledbury, Leominster and Ludlow. These and much more are happily revealed.

There are noteworthy additions to the Robert Hale series, in particular new Portrait Books of *Exeter* (£8.50) by Bryan Little, *Lincolnshire* (£8.95) by M. Lloyd, *Wiltshire* (£8.95) by C. D. Taylor, and *Solent* (£9.25) by B. Shurlock.

Mr Little wrote about Exeter and some neighbouring townships in another book published some 30 years ago. Now he concentrates on the city and recent developments, such as a shopping precinct, a maritime museum and a vastly expanded university. But Mr Little remains strongest on the historical background and its relationship to the contemporary scene.

Wiltshire and the Solent are contrasting waters and their protagon-

ists give different emphases to their accounts. Mr Taylor is sensitive to the scenery and the romance of the lake and its surroundings. The character of the landscape, and that of its inhabitants, appeal. The Solent is more industrialized, though by extending his scope to Southampton Water and Spithead, and dealing with the northern shores of the Isle of Wight, Mr Shurlock has yachting and the usual seaside amenities also in his brief.

Mr Lloyd's contribution is satisfactorily in harmony with the best of the Portrait books. Lincolnshire is not, overall, a prime attraction for tourists, which is curious since it has within its bounds a noble cathedral, pleasing villages and an extensive coastline. All these, and the industry and the intensive farming, are encompassed.

Smaller communities are the theme of Patricia Sibley's *Isle of Wight Villages* (Hale, £9.50). The physical characteristics of the villages, stories of their well-known (and some less distinguished) residents, and other anecdotes - factual or *ben trovato* - make an agreeable mélange.

Finally, some Baisford books not to be missed include a new series, with opening titles *Cornish Landscapes*, *South Coast Landscapes*, *Yorkshire Landscapes* and *Lake District Landscapes* (each £4.95). High class colour plates and a generous (if occasionally misleading) text convey the charm of these popular areas.

The north-east is featured also in *Yorkshire Moorlands* (Baisford, £8.95) by Maurice Colclough, who mingles history, archaeology and the fascination of the moors, not least Ilkley.

West of England Market Towns (Baisford, £6.95) by M. Colwell restates its setting to Somerset, Wiltshire, Oxford, Hereford and Worcester, Gloucestershire and Avon, a peculiarly arbitrary choice of boundaries. Why did some places evolve as market centres? Why did some flourish and others decay? What goes on in them and what is there to see there? Good answers, nicely illustrated, may attract even more visitors to these towns.

EXTRA

Flying into a Tampa

Angela Humphery in Florida

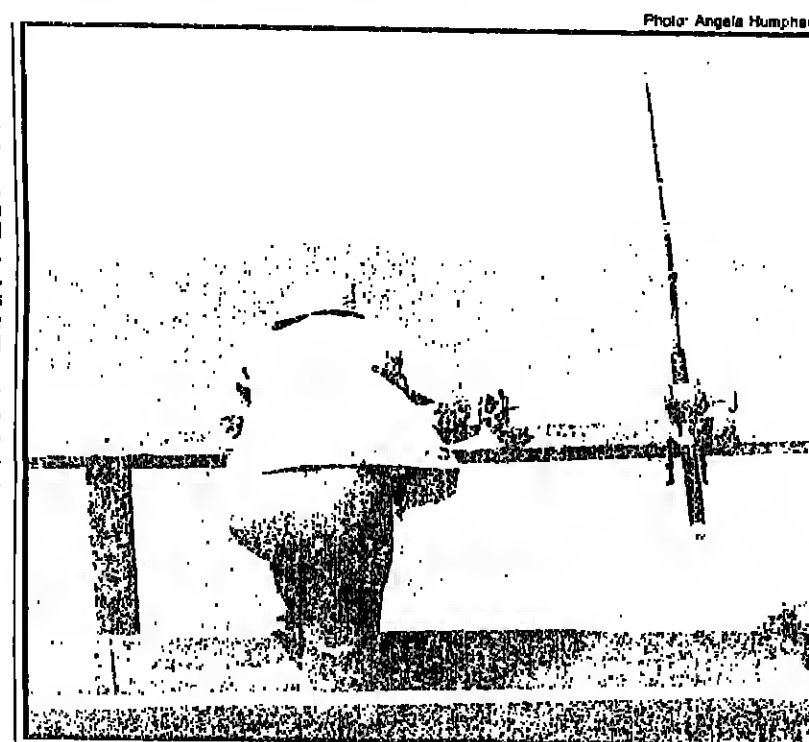


Photo: Angela Humphery

Snap, crackle and pop! It was 7am but these weren't breakfast-cereal noises. Our track-shoes were crunching the little white shells of Redington Beach on Florida's Pinellas Seacoast, a peninsula west of Tampa which juts out into the Gulf of Mexico.

The sun was shining, which it does, on average, 361 days a year and on those days when it doesn't, the local evening paper is given away free. Fellow joggers, brown as hamburgers, greeted us but we were still white as hamburger-buns, having flown in the previous day from Britain. An old woman in a "Foxy Grandma" T-shirt walked barefoot looking for untamped shells; a blond beach-boy was putting out sunbaked; sandpipers darted insect-like along the water's edge; four brown pelicans glided by in silent formation.

Exhausted and hungry we headed back for breakfast. Not for us the pancake houses. With the £ in the dollars we were watching our wallets as well as our waistlines and self-catering in a rented apartment.

The apartment was on the top floor of a five-storey condominium called "Sea Ona". It overlooked Redington Beach and Long Pier where, from dawn till dusk, fishermen (at least half were women) cast their lines and hauled in catches to the audience of eager gulls and pelicans. The previous day, having flown into Tampa and picked up our hire car, we'd gone to stock our larder at Winn Dixie's mammoth supermarket with its fantastic jumbo-size produce. We bought grapefruit like balloons at four for a dollar.

Southern Florida is, of course, one of the market gardens of the US. For picnic lunches we got "pocket bread" (Greek *pitta*) into which could be

slipped slices of salami or cheese, and for dinner, rag-sized steaks and strawberries at 57 cents a punnet. Three litres of California wine for \$5.49 completed our first shopping list. This trip was to be cheap and cheerful!

Central Florida is the No. 1 vacation spot in the world, studded as it is with such star attractions as Disney World (and the newly opened EPCOT Centre), Walt Disney World, Circus World just a 90-minute drive away, and Cypress Gardens 45-minutes away. The Pinellas Seacoast itself

stretches along a 28-mile strand of Gulf of Mexico beaches and encompasses eight resort communities including, from north to south, Tarpon Springs, Dunedin, Clearwater Beach, Holiday Isles, Madeira Beach, Treasure Island, St. Petersburg and St. Pete Beach. Our apartment was between Holiday Isles and Madeira Beach, convenient for trips either up or down the coast.

Tampa's Busch Gardens, for instance, is a 300-acre African-theme

continued

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Flying into a Tampa

continued

park which contains over 3,000 animals and is one of the world's top zoos. Bud and Mich, a pair of bottle-nosed dolphins, delighted and drenched the crowd with a dual high-jump which is part of their show at the "Dolphins of the Deep Theatre".

There are thrill-rides at Busch Gardens too with floating logs which carry you along a watery 1,000 ft course and plunge down a 42 ft drop while the Python and the Scorpion plunge 70 ft at 50 mph and then whirl through 360-degree loops. The newest attraction is the Congo River Rapids, a raging, roaring white-water raft ride travelling a 1,300 ft winding course, past gushing geysers and through cascading waterfalls soaking us to the skin. Lucky there are 361 sunny days to dry out!

A mile up the coast from Redington Beach at 18328 Gulf Boulevard on an acre of sunbleached beachfront, is the Birdman of Indian Shores, also known as the St Francis of Florida. Ralph Heath, a 35-year-old zoologist, who runs the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary, a non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue, repair, recuperation and, hopefully, eventual release of sick or injured birds, especially seabirds.

Brown pelicans, cormorants, white herons, bald eagles and barn owls fill the pens and cages. Some, alas, are blinded or permanently crippled and are, therefore, inmates for life. Most of the brown pelicans (now on the endangered species list) are injured by monofilament fishing-line and fish hooks. However, much to Ralph's delight some of the permanently crippled brown pelicans are now breeding. Each day around 500 non-paying guests consume some 800 lbs of fish.

The annual Food Bill alone amounts to \$12,000. In addition, the sanctuary has to buy medical supplies and cover administrative costs - it depends on voluntary donations.

Ralph found his first injured bird, a cormorant with a broken wing on Gulf Boulevard, in 1971. Since that time he has acquired a rescue-boat and hospital with veterinary surgeons, who give their services free, and this is now the largest bird-hospital in the US with birds brought in from all over the country by car and by plane. Two sky-divers found an injured baby tern, flew it to Tampa and then hitch-hiked from the airport to the sanctuary.

A few miles further north is Tiki Gardens, a 100-acre adventure trail set in 12 acres of gardens reminiscent of a South Seas island. In the entrance lobby Terry Frees is prepared to make instant jewellery. If you buy a cultured oyster for \$5.99 with a guaranteed pearl (there might even be three), Terry will open it, drill the pearl and mount it. The Garden Chapel is a copy of Queen Deborah's chapel on the island of Kuai where Maxine Witten-



beck, our guide and a Notary Public, can (and frequently does) marry people.

Further north still is Tarpon Springs, known as Greektown USA, where on Dodecanese Boulevard they shout "Ya! Sou!" instead of "Hi!" Greek immigrants came here at the beginning of the century to dive for sponges and created America's "Sponge-Diving Birthplace" which, despite the production of synthetic sponges, is still going strong.

We took a 30-minute boat-ride on the "St Nicholas II" with 80-year-old Nicholas Skilas who has been sponge-diving for 37 years and watched him put on his helmet and lead boots each of which weigh 12 lbs. He was lowered overboard and five minutes later surfaced holding up a shiny object - an untreated sponge. He didn't talk to us because he still cannot speak English!

Everything seemed to be called Nicholas. The St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral is a replica of St Sophia's in Istanbul but with an American touch - wall-to-wall pink shagpile carpeting.

In the southern part of the Pinellas Suncoast is St Petersburg with its "Million Dollar" Pier. This is an inverted pyramid structure with a collection of restaurants and an observation deck with a splendid view across Tampa Bay.

Nearby floats HMS Bounty, an authentic re-creation of the eighteenth century ship in which Fletcher Christian led a mutiny against the tyrannical Captain Bligh in 1789. It was built from the original blueprints stored in the British Museum when MGM made the film *Mutiny on the Bounty*.

A few blocks away are the Sunken Gardens, which are full of incredible plants. This exotic jungle has 5,000 different plants and flowers and a mile-long pathway winds through tropical vegetation. Monkeys swing from tree to tree, flamingoes, parrots and peacocks disport themselves in the world's largest walk-in aviary and alligators lie, semi-submerged, in a lagoon. "A nice pair of suitcases" a man from Ohio wisecracked.

Also at St Petersburg is the newly-opened Salvador Dali Museum. It houses the world's largest collection of works by the famous Spanish surrealist. They were donated to the state of Florida by a Cleveland industrialist and his wife who had formed a 40-year friendship with Dali and his wife, Gala.

About four miles south of our apartment lies Madeira Beach where on Sundays the Wagon Wheels Flea Market sells everything from wallpaper to waterbeds. For 50 cents (the price of parking your car) it makes fascinating browsing.

Madiera Beach is separated from Treasure Island by a 590 ft inlet called John's Pass. By 1875 a meandering little bridge had been built over it and shops flourished nearby for the local fishing trade. This bridge was rebuilt in 1927 and in 1971 was replaced. The village formed alongside the pass revitalized the area which now includes a variety of boutiques, galleries, restaurants and shops and a new boardwalk over the waters of John's Pass.

One of the reasons for our trip to the Pinellas Suncoast was to see a particular shop in John's Pass Village, called "Maggie's Treasure". My brother and his wife had just bought it, having emigrated from Monmouth (Gwent) to Madiera Beach six months previously. With sport on their doorstep, such as water-skiing, fishing, scuba-diving, para-sailing, windsurfing, canoeing, tennis, golf and riding, they've never had it so good and are there to stay.

How to get there: ARROW AIR (the only direct carrier between Gatwick-Tampa) Suite 834, North Office Block, Gatwick Airport, West Sussex RH6 0B (tel: Crawley 0293 546181). Round trip fare from £318. Arrow can also arrange unlimited mileage self-drive cars from £19 a week and self-catering apartments on Madiera Beach from £63 per person per week. For further information contact: Geoff Rowcliffe, Florida's Pinellas Suncoast UK office, 105 Sandstead Road, Croydon, Surrey CR2 0PJ (tel: 01-688 0833).

Golden domes

By Aida Hunter

Katmandu? You'll never regret it. Not only is the capital of Nepal worth seeing, it is worth going half way around the world to see. Even for those of us who don't climb the majestic Himalayas, just being in their presence makes us feel 10 feet tall. I used to believe that the young wanderers who grew starry-eyed, nostalgically sighing praises of Nepal, were really yearning for the drugs they used to get there. Pot is not my cup of tea, yet I, too, become sentimentally enthusiastic about that distant land.

What is it then that enchants us? The delight of turning a corner and coming upon an elegant old palace, the intricate wood carvings that decorate medieval temples and residences (especially in Bhaktapur), the gleaming golden-roofed temples and pagodas clustered in the city squares, the vias of terraced rice paddies, the vibrant colours of country houses, and the snow-capped Himalayas whenever you raise your eyes - these are what capture the heart.

Although I give little credence to the two-week visitors judgments about the people here, I fall into that

trap myself. I'll say it - the Nepalese people have a lightness of spirit that transcends their poor material circumstances. Yes, there are beggars and persistent peddlars, but there seems to be no feeling of desperation. There is no perceptible resentment of travellers, the smiles are not calculated, the courtesy seems spontaneous. One hypothesis to explain some of the differences between the people of Nepal and those of many other Asian countries is that Nepal was never conquered by Europeans. The service people are attentive, but not fawning or obsequious. Taxi drivers charge by the meter. What more could one ask? A very agreeable hotel, that's what.

Well, there are several of international standard - the Yak and Yeti, the Soaltee Oberoi, the Mala, the Anapurna, and the Everest Sheraton. If you want something special, that is aesthetically pleasing and architecturally particular to Nepal, you might try Dwarika's Village Hotel. The beds are comfortable, the plumbing works and there is hot water. The dining room is inviting and, entirely reliable, Brook-

fast, lunch and dinner are served with Nepalese or western food. Ms Anamie Spahr, the manager, a Swiss-born naturalized citizen of Nepal, is as efficient as she is knowledgeable and the cost is surprisingly modest. Dwarika's is about a mile and a half from the centre of town and a short walk from where the gold-domed buildings of the Pashupatinath Temple cluster on the banks of the Bagmati River. Go there first by day (take a taxi), cross the footbridge over the river and look back at the temple. You'll hear bells, drums, and chanting voices of Hindu worshippers, and may see a cremation. Flames that illuminate the half-naked holy man and a few mourners, are reflected in the water of the holy Bagmati River an eerie, poignant sight.

When to go? Any time! Although the Terai area in the south of Nepal is subtropical and the north is dominated by the Himalayas, the Katmandu Valley has a temperate climate. In winter the days are moderate, and the evenings chilly. Take a warm cardigan.

A gentle journey

Jane Last takes an ecumenical tour of Israel

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. We had heard the story a hundred times before - but never quite like this.

Candles sizzled and flickered in the small grotto with fire blackened walls and hung with ornate brass lamps beneath the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. A young school teacher read the story and we listened, there in the stable-cave where it happened almost two thousand years ago.

We sang *O Little Town of Bethlehem* and sat there in the quiet. A group of French pilgrims crouched on the floor and sang psalms and sacred verses and left. And I had a few moments totally alone.

There are many ways of seeing the Holy Places in Israel - package tours, backpacking, individually with guide books, or with an official Israeli tour leader. Ours, I think, was the best - whatever one's belief, or lack of it. The small party was led by an English theologian and his wife who know and love the land, value authenticity above drama and do as much justice to the shrines of Islam and Judaism as to those of Christianity.

In Toteh in the 1950s, a young vicar took a group of Protestant and Catholic schoolboys abroad on holiday. From there Inter Church Travel has grown, with the same ecumenical principles. They have been running pilgrimages for 30 years and have more than 200 leaders, mainly clergy, experts on the land and its history. And next year they are to operate Holy Land Tours for school groups.

We arrived at Ben-Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv, in the early evening, dark already and the hottest summer since 1932.

We drove across the plain and as we ascended the Judean Hills to Jerusalem, the Rev Michael Benton, Director of Education for the Diocese of Winchester, read out, "I will lift my eyes to the hills... psalm 121, as people have done for hundreds of years. And so we entered one of the world's most ancient and beautiful cities, boasting three thousand years of continuous history. A city geographically unique, but as split as it has ever been.

We passed the ornate Damascus Gate, and Herod's gate and the onion domes, black, white and gold of the Russian Orthodox Church on the hill of Gethsemane to our hotel. And we ate dinner that first evening in the aptly named Jerusalem Panorama the whole city was spread out before us dominated by the golden Dome of the Rock, one of the three great shrines of Islam.

The next afternoon we walked from Bethpage where Jesus began his triumphal ride into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, over the Mount of Olives to Gethsemane. The mount has more graves than olive trees for it is believed that the Kidron below is the Valley of Jehoshaphat where humanity will assemble on Judgment Day. It seems the faithful want to be buried as close as possible!

But the view at the top is wonderful: Mt Moriah, where Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his son Isaac and King Solomon built the first temple in 960BC. Muhammad's ascension took place there and so in 691AD the Dome of the Rock was built. "Two great faiths both want this piece of rock", Michael Benton said. "Therein lies one of the great tragedies of this land." Small boys sold us bundles of post cards for a few shekels.

We walked down through gardens of fan palms, rosemary, locust trees and pine to the tiny church of Domini Flavit, built in the shape of a tear drop, commemorating Jesus weeping over Jerusalem. As we stood outside in the hot afternoon sun the muezzin was calling for Moslems to prayer from a nearby minaret.

The olive trees in the garden of Gethsemane are 800 years old and small walls have been built to support them. And there is the beautiful

Church of All Nations where it is forever evening. Inside its mosaic domes and arches are dark blue and gold over the traditional Rock of Sion where Jesus prayed and the disciples fell asleep. The thick stained windows are purple and deep indigo.

We entered the old city the next morning by the gate where Stephen was stoned and visited the ruins of the Pool of Bethesda, the healing medicinal baths of biblical times. We sat in the calm and lovely Crusader Church of St Anne, all warm beige stone vaults and arches.

There should be a lot of silences in the Holy Land, the Venerable Peter Mullett, Managing Director of Inter Church, believes. Presentation gets in the way. The land speaks for itself.

We are not just an ordinary tour operator. There are other pilgrimage organizations, but frankly they're in the business of selling seats on aeroplanes. We provide an experience. Whether you are an intensely Christian person or not you want to enter emotionally into it. A lot who aren't church goers want a little of this.

We moved away from Christianity for a while. Guards checked our bags before we were allowed on to the Haran esh-Sharif, the Noble Sanctuary, the huge platform built by Herod the Great on Mt Moriah.

Elizabeth Benton looked after our shoes as we padded over the thick carpets of the Dome of the Rock. The enormous stone in the centre is encircled by arcades of marble-columned arches in perfect mathematical rhythm. Representation of living beings is forbidden and the mosaics are blue and gold geometric circles and squares and lines from the Koran.

We walked along the Vin Dolbroska the next morning to the central shrine of Christendom, the Holy Sepulchre, site of Calvary and the tomb of Christ. Six branches of the church occupy the

in scarlet - a relief after some of the appalling paintings in some of the churches. But sitting to admire it is not allowed. I perched myself for a moment on a ledge and was immediately moved on by guards. Rest is only for those on their knees!

As we descended through the Moors Gate, we were met by noise like a Saturday football crowd. I looked down to the huge square foundation stones of the Temple Mount - the Wailing Wall, the Jews' most holy place - the closest they can get to the Temple.

The men in their black hats and long coats swayed and prayed and read the scriptures facing the wall, and on their side women wrote prayers on small bits of paper and pushed them into the cracks between the stones. Hundreds of men gathered round the different bar mitzvah ceremonies, clapping, singing and taking video films of the young boys reading the scriptures in public for the first time. Women were standing on chairs and shouting and throwing sweets. They had confetti in their hair.

Later that morning we sat on some Roman steps on the eastern slope of Mt Zion in the shade of huge pine trees. This was the path until very recently from the village of Silwan in the Kidron Valley to Jerusalem. "One can say with certainty that Jesus and the disciples would have come this way in the night he was arrested," Michael Benton said. "It would have been brought up these steps."

We walked along the Vin Dolbroska the next morning to the central shrine of Christendom, the Holy Sepulchre, site of Calvary and the tomb of Christ. Six branches of the church occupy the

huge Crusader building, Latin Catholics, Greek Orthodox, Armenians, Syrians, Copts and Ethiopians. There is no peace or tranquility here with the warring chants and scaffolding and workmen busy on the restoration. But the rock where the crucifixion took place has been a place of pilgrimage since 30AD.

Our fourth day we left Jerusalem and drove east into the Judean Desert. We passed brand new Israeli settlements, and groups of Bedouin tents and a sign which said "Sea Level" and plunged down a further 1,300 feet into the flat rift valley of the Jordan.

We visited Quntran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947 by a shepherd and drove on south to Musada, the great flat topped rock where 960 Zealots put themselves to death rather than be taken by the Romans in 70AD. Two women and five children hid, and lived to tell the tale.

It was very very hot - easy to understand how 6½ million gallons evaporate from the Dead Sea each day. There are leopards here in the Judean wilderness scorpions, pythons and brown widow spiders. The desert acacia grows out of the dust.

We strolled in the Dead Sea at En Gedi, famous in biblical times for its date palms, vineyards, aromatic and medicinal plants, close to a copper age temple in use 5,000 years ago. And we queued for ice creams next to young girl and boy Israeli soldiers, guns casually slung over their shoulders.

Jericho is the lowest town on earth and, some say, the oldest. We saw remains from 11,000BC and drank twice succulent from local oranges kept in the fridge. I stood in the lee cold water of Elisha's spring which irrigates this oasis with 1,100 gallons of water a minute. There are the remains of Crusader sugar mills here, and of refugee camps where 71,000 Palestinians lived before 1967.

We returned to Jerusalem and stopped at Bethany. I bought a bunch of grapes from a young girl called Martha, freshly cut from the vine in her garden.

On Thursday, we left for Galilee on the road leading north from the Damascus Gate to Samaria. We passed the hill of Beans and the unfinished summer palace of King Hussein. We swam in the Mediterranean at Caesarea, the city of Pontius Pilate, after a lunch of tahina, humus, aubergine, fish and fruit. Then on again across the Carmel Mountains, and through a village called Balfoura to Tibcrius on the shores of Lake Kinnet, in the Sea of Galilee.

In the morning we drove north along the lake towards the orange, lemon and grapefruit groves of the Kibbutz Ginnosar which farms the fertile plain here, and banana plantations and avocados. Michael Benton said the Eucharist and passed the bread and wine on the Mount of the Beatitudes under tall eucalyptus trees overlooking the Sea of Galilee.

We visited Nazareth Inter on, and the huge modern and, to my mind, ugly Basilica of the Annunciation. Michael and Elizabeth didn't show us the carpenter's bench where Joseph Jesus slept. "I can't bear it when people say categorically 'it was there'." It does the Christian faith a disservice," Michael said.

We had a hair-raising drive by taxi up to Mt Tabor, traditional site of the transfiguration and then down to the River Jordan where a group of pilgrims were being "born again" by total immersion.

On our last day we took a boat across the lake to the pioneer kibbutz of the eastern shore founded in 1937 and swam there in the calm waters just beneath the Golan Heights.

When the sun rose behind us on Sunday morning we had been a long time on the road to Tel Aviv. In eight days we had seen far too much, but would not know how to miss any of it. And there had been some silences. It was as gentle and reflective a way of seeing some of the busiest and most popular tourist sites in the world as is possible. Timeless days which will last for ever.

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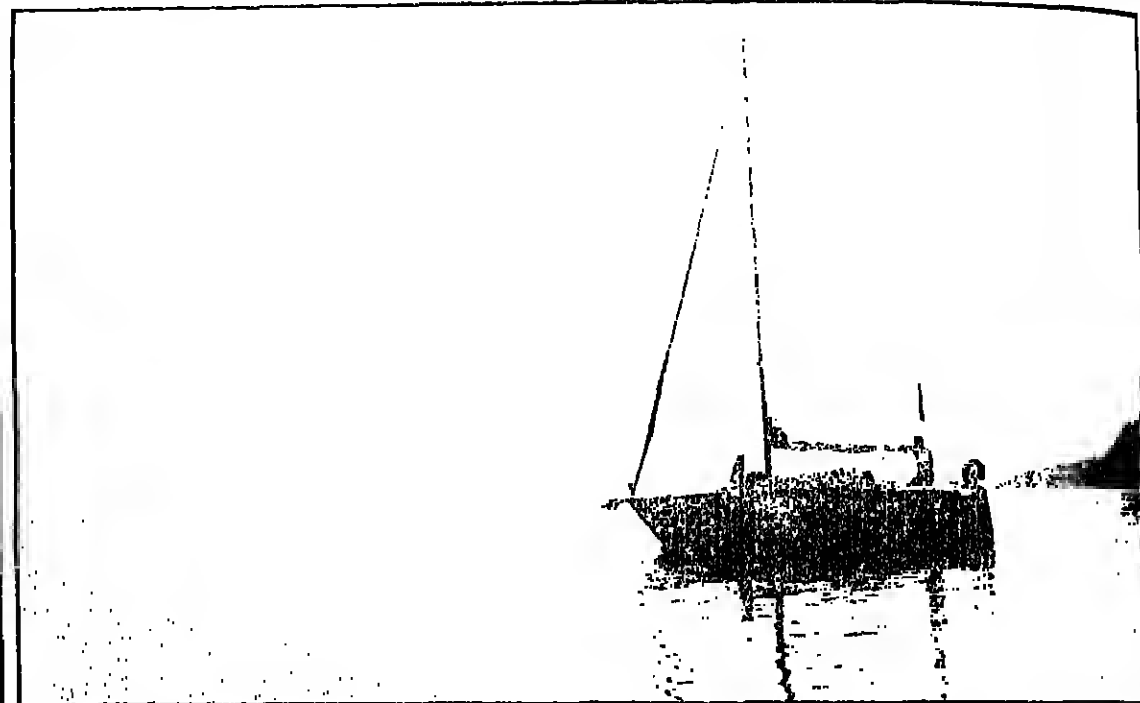
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Down to the sea again

David Wickers takes a memorable voyage in Turkish waters

We came at night, landing at Izmir in mid confusion since its airport's name sounds distinctly like "Chile". It was our first encounter with Turkey's unique language which is not unlike an autistic game of scrabble. We would soon be delighted to find out that this was the one place in the world where you could walk into a restaurant, say something like yuck sick to the waiter and be presented with a bottle of wine.

We, three men in a boat as it happens, were in Turkey to sail along its southern coast, a barren, unappealing landscape broken by deep bays, some bare, some surprisingly wooded like overripe Norwegian fjords. There are occasional, only occasional, villages lying in the sun like tired dogs, all still mercifully undiscovered by tourists, at least in any state of abundance.

Noah's Ark landed in Turkey, on 17,000 foot Mount Ararat in Asia Minor. Our boat, the good ship Mar-casha (a 28-foot Maxi for the nautical record) was heretofore at Bodrum, a four-hour drive south from Izmir through crumpled, shadow scenery struck by a brilliant moon and marked by now and then towns and villages and the crowded waters of men in cafes, bathed in cold fluorescence. By the time we reach Bodrum's marina and its nocturnal muzak of steel halyards chattering against the face of a hundred masts, it was far too late to focus on anything but bed and the night's bottle of yuck sick, a "welcome aboard and goodnight" gesture provided by Yachtours, the British boating company that has pioneered sailing in these delicious waters.

Goodnight, however, are hard to come by in Bodrum. At five in the morning the mullah ascended to the top of his minaret to call the devout to prayer and infidels to mutter profanities. But Bodrum, by the smoky blue light of dawn was worth being woken for. The town is a brilliant red, a pair of crescent bays lined with fishing boats and backed by a maze of narrow streets where you'll find shops that don't sell touristy knick knacks.

Bodrum's dominating glory is its castle, a cruder mega-fortress that batters out into the sea between the twin bays. You enter its pine-scented precinct, filled with the ratty call of jackdaws and casually strewn with ancient artifacts like rejects from a china factory. Inside you'll find one of the world's finest underwater archaeological museums which includes the wreck of a Bronze Age ship that sank off these shores more than 3,000 years ago and other submerged treasures including a brilliant collection of Islamic glass. In another room of the castle you'll also meet a Turk dressed as a Knight of St John and selling glasses of yuck sick, his costume on loan from the British Museum.

Enough of land. We left that afternoon, setting sail under the frown of the castle and headed south across the

neck of the Gulf of Gokova, leaving the great Greek misty hulk of Cos on our starboard beam. Although these neighbouring nations still wallow in "garden fence" disputes over these ambiguous waters you can sail from one to the other providing you follow the proper paperwork procedures and fly the right courtesy flag at the right time and place, although on this trip our allegiances were exclusively Turkish.

This is no democracy, ruled as it is by the might of the military. There are grim-faced, tin-hatted, machine-gun silencing soldiers all over the place. But Turkey is undeniably beautiful, extremely friendly on grass roots level and very cheap. Paradoxically, it is a bit like Greece used to be some 20 years or so before it began to be molested by hordes of summer punters. And, despite their swartly reputation, every single Turk we met turned out to be a sweet delight.

Apart from the intrinsic joys of sailing, which is a relatively straightforward affair in these non-tidal, rarely stormy waters (in summer at least), a boat can lend you to worlds that can otherwise only be reached with enormous sticky discomfort at the end of dusty tracks. Cnidus, our first port of call, lay round the tip of the finger peninsula in the unromantically named Gulf of Doris. We nosed into its bay and a scene that could have barely changed over the centuries, its concessions to twentieth century development being limited to four or five buildings, two of them restaurants, each with a long, antennae-like jetty reaching out into the waters towards us.

It all seemed like an economics' textbook case of perfect competition, but Ahmed had seen us coming. By the time we noticed him he was waiting at the tip of his jetty, the one leading to the whitewashed cube with "Fishmen's Cafe" painted in wonky blue letters above a bamboo verandah.

Along the jetty, en route to Fishmen's, we could already see the menu. Ahmed had gone back to the shore we had interrupted, scraping the scales off a hefty sea bass. We could have ordered the lobster, the one we could plainly see just below the surface of the sea, tied to a jetty post by a length of blue nylon cord fastened around its middle, but since it may have been a pet we settled on the bass, had it weighed and looked it into the oven for a couple of hours later.

Seven thousand people used to live in Cnidus. Today there are 40, 10 of them soldiers garrisoned in what looks like a tiny cricket club pavilion on an English village green. The rest are either "fishmen" and their families or guardians of the ruins. Cnidus, in Roman-Hellenic times, was a massive town with two harbours (one civil, where we moored, the other military, now too silted up to float anything with more draught than a beer can).

plus a hillside array of temples, an amphitheatre, city walls and a dense variety of other buildings that were abandoned during a protracted drought. The town was later razed by an earthquake and, in more recent times, ravaged by archaeologists who picked the best bits to feather their own museums. The British included (just wait, oh curators, till a Turkish Melina Mercouri takes issue).

On this June day, we were the only people on the entire site. There were no fences to exclude us, let alone a ticket hut, but we did spot one of the guardians busy hitting grasshoppers on the head with a wooden stick and popping the corpses into a plastic container. When he asked us if we would like him to come along on our little walkabout we certainly did, if only to fathom out the mystery of the grasshopper genocide. They were, he explained with flapping arms and international gurgling noises, for the past few years. We learned a lot more about the ruins.

After the hour we cemented Anglo Turkish détente under the Fishmen's bamboo with a few glasses of raki, the potent anhydrous drink. Ahmed insisted on sitting in a remote corner of the cafe, explaining how his wife did not look kindly upon his raki habits and nodded in the direction of her room, a small white house above the bay with one of the most spectacular views in the entire Mediterranean. "It is a poor house," he said. In a couple of years, once the tourist momentum got underway he'll be able to barter for a whole hen's foot of raki.

With the falling daylight, Fishmen's came alive. Another boat arrived, a traditionally designed Turkish gulet, chartered by a German party and skippered by Ahmed's brother. There was music and merriment and Ahmed slid under the table. We left early next morning with the promise from Ahmed's brother of "girls at Dateta". The next port of call, and a small one at that, was a tiny island called Dateta. The B in Bodrum is for boatbuilding and the rib cages turned out to be gulls in various stages of maturity. The rest of the town was both ordinary and delightful full of horrid soldiers walking around in pairs, sometimes hand in hand as if to purposefully shatter the Turkish macho myths, and some very strange young lads like the man with quorks in a town cut off from years of contact with the outside world. Even today the road is a rough and ready compromise, passing through a rimelap scenery of ox-driven ploughs and

EXTRA

Danish idyll

Harold Dennis-Jones explores the river Guden

Floating lazily along on a peaceful summer day, with the pop of canoe paddles, the song of birds, and maybe the hum of mid-distance farm machinery the only sounds reaching one's ears seems to me to come as close to paradise as anything one's likely to meet this side of the grave.

It is precisely what a canoeing holiday on Denmark's River Guden can offer, and it is one of the best ways of enjoying the green and pleasant countryside and its friendly, efficient people.

From your boat you glimpse innumerable half-timbered farmhouses. You can eat and drink ashore in wonderful thatched inns. You can explore charming villages and towns, historic churches, and delightful wooded hill country, including Denmark's highest point. And, to crown everything, the trip is extraordinarily inexpensive.

Though you provide your own propulsion, it is not strenuous. At least, it need not be unless you are obsessive about sightseeing.

The river is canoe-navigable for roughly 100 miles. It flows north in a winding line from its source at Tinnel Krai to the sea at Randers, a pleasant market town and port.

For much of that distance the stream is fairly narrow, often flowing fast enough to carry you along at a gentle walking pace. Its middle stretch however, south of Silkeborg, the region's chief town, consists of a series of picturesque lakes flanked by Denmark's highest hills. These reach the dizzy height of 500 feet above sea level. Typical Danish humour has resulted in one of them being called *Himmelberget* - The Sky Mountain.

The lakes - naturally - are much deeper than the stream. Current in them is reduced and the water feels



much more sluggish than in the lively river. Given a head wind, it can take two people's strength to move the Canadian dugout canoe forward. But an evening feeling of pleasantly relaxed fatigue, of something attempted and something achieved, is not the least of the holiday's joys.

Silkeborg is the river's headquarters and halfway point. The normal holiday lasts eight days, with downstream travel starting either at Tinnel Krai, about 10 miles below Tinnel Krai, or at Silkeborg.

The upstream stretch is more popular. With its mixtures of narrow stream, broad lakes, flat meadows, woods and often steep hills it offers plenty of variety. It is also about nine miles longer than Silkeborg-Randers and a shade more strenuous.

Normal paddling times between overnight campsites range from 1 1/2 to 4 hours, whereas the downstream

run's times are mostly around 1 hour. However, the Silkeborg-Randers stretch is particularly suitable for families with young children. Here, all the canoes provided are of unsinkable glassfibre, whereas solid, clinker-hull craft are the rule upstream.

Nowhere, outside the few built-up areas, have "improvements" been allowed to spoil the river's beauty, not even when landing-stages might save you from having to land in very wet mud.

One of the Guden's main attractions is in fact the opportunities you get to go ashore almost anywhere. You can wander through fields and woods or along paths and lanes into quiet inland villages close to the river. Their old half-timbered houses, white-painted or brightly-coloured, white churches, and sometimes excellent modern buildings, are a delight to the eye, whereas the downstream

continued

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EXTRA

Operation Raleigh

Introduced by Rupert Grey

Wanted: 1,500 volunteers to build bridges in Africa; alternatively, to survey the jungles of South-East Asia or the snow-swept landscape of Antarctica, to sail squire-riggers in the South China Seas and to dive for shipwrecks in Caledonia Bay. Physical handicap no bar, education irrelevant. Applicants must be between 17 and 23 years of age.

The advertisement will not appear in this form, nor indeed will it appear until later in the autumn. Those who are placing it believe that the number of applications will exceed the places available by a substantial margin, and they ought to know: they have done it before.

Not, however, on this scale. Operation Raleigh starts in November next, year and will last four years. The 1,500 volunteers will join the expedition for three months as the base-ship, a 200ft stern trawler converted for under-water research, makes its way round the world. A similar number of volunteers will be recruited from the United States, and a further 1,000 from approximately 30 other countries. Dis-

ground for a large number of projects. This requires close liaison with international organizations both political and commercial, and with the governments of the countries it is proposed to visit: the director of operations, Colonel John Blashford-Snell, has just returned from a month in Australia and South-East Asia, where the example set by Operation Drake's work in Sulawesi has prompted requests that Raleigh's scientists should conduct further surveys of the sites proposed for national reserves. This will involve mapping some of the world's more remote areas and studying and recording the plant, insect and animal life.

The presence of rural people unacquainted with European faces and technology, both in scientific and community projects, will add a dimension to Raleigh's work for volunteers drawn from a western world in the throes of a technological revolution. They will, moreover, be working alongside volunteers recruited from the host-country, and together will provide practical assistance and labour in the field. The contrast between life in the tropical rain forests of South-East Asia and the concrete jungles of urbanized Britain will not be lost on them.

Operation Raleigh's programme will include a substantial number of community tasks, some involving manual labour such as digging canals and laying water pipes; the United Nations has declared the 1980s to be the International Water Decade, and Professor Onem Marm of Leeds University, together with a civil engineering consultant, are devising a series of schemes to analyse rural water supplies and to suggest and implement improvements.

Following in the footsteps of Operation Drake in Fiji where volunteers reconstructed schools destroyed by a hurricane (for which both they and H R H The Prince of Wales, Patron both of Drake and Raleigh, received warm thanks from villagers), it is proposed to erect a Hurricane Relief Centre in the Solomon Islands. This project was suggested by the International Red Cross, and is designed to provide shelter in emergencies and to ensure the supply of stores and materials that are vital in the aftermath of South Pacific cyclones.

If Raleigh is to be a success, such projects as these will require commitment and expertise at a serious level, both from organizers and participants. This is clearly recognized by the former, and is not seen as being inconsistent with introducing an element of adventure into the four-year plan.

In a world where the acceptance of risk is discouraged and the burden of consequences reduced or eliminated by the composite insurers or the Department of Health and Social Services, Operation Raleigh is calculated to create an opportunity for adventure which is too frequently expressed by urban youth in the frustration of vandalism. It is by no means the only organization in its field that is hoping to achieve this aim, but



A village chief in Fiji joins Operation Drake volunteers and directing staff (Rupert Grey) in reconstructing a school destroyed by hurricane. Operation Raleigh proposes to follow in Drake's footsteps and build a hurricane relief centre in the Solomon Islands.

it has the distinction of being grand in scale and grand in geographical concept.

Plans are afoot to navigate the treacherous river and cross the occasional waterless desert, to climb the unclimbed peak or two and to keep the down switch on a squire-rigger as she sails down the coast of Coromandel. The inherent dangers of these adventures will be significantly reduced by the fact that the expedition leaders will be the best in their respective fields.

It is an essential part of Raleigh that its leaders will lead from behind. If leadership is to be taught, and this is one of Raleigh's stated aims, the young men and women who join the operation must make their own mistakes, with the old hands stepping in only to avoid disasters and mitigate misfortune.

To select volunteers who will adapt to the expedition's requirements and benefit from its challenge is a daunting task. During the next three years, 20,000 interviews and 250 selection weekends will be held in the United Kingdom, and the most important criterion which Roger Chapman, who is responsible for the selection programme, and his county coordinators will seek is compatibility.

This is what they ask, and it is leadership training they will offer. This is seen by many of Raleigh's sponsors, who are funding the project, as the key ingredient. Donations may be inspired in part by charity, but the bulk of the funds flow from corporations whose senior personnel see tomorrow's leaders in today's youth.

Raleigh is big enough to make a significant contribution, not least because the experiences of those who join, drawn from every background, race, colour, creed, will echo through a generation whose horizons are cramped by an education that stopped at 16 and employment that never started. It was youngsters such as these that gained most from Drake, and it is they that Raleigh wants most of all.

That, of course, does not on its own satisfy commercially-minded sponsors. They have guessed that Raleigh is a new phenomenon, and that there is something to be gained from association with it. If it is a clarity in law, it

resembles an international corporation in its scale. It provides a service to research scientists that is unrivalled in geographical extent, and it offers expertise and material assistance to host governments which experience on Drake suggests is greatly appreciated. Above all, the linking of international youth in a common goal is the best foundation for peace, and it is this that a bridge between nations is built.

Inquiries about Operation Raleigh should not be addressed to *The Times Educational Supplement*. Schools and educational bodies will be made aware of further details during November.

© Rupert Grey 1983



Danish idyll

continued

Many have excellent foodshops where you can stock up, and restaurants where you can eat if you prefer. All such facilities, including the village inns, are marked on the maps provided with the canoe.

How much shore walking you do is a matter of personal choice. A few of the possible visits are a little special however. If you choose the upstream section, a walk to the top of the Sky Mountain is virtually obligatory. You do it most easily by paddling across the lake, second largest of the Silkeborg lakes, from the beautifully-located campsite at Laven.

On the downstream stretch less than an hour's walk along a quiet road over wooded hills takes you, via the Skovstrup bridge to the fine vintage car museum at Ejern. It houses about 100

vehicles built between 1900 and 1942. Whatever your choice you will have plenty of time to explore the charming, small town of Silkeborg. Its original centre, on high ground between the Bråse and the Silkeborg Langsø (there is also a Sølten Langsø, part of the Cuden tributary), consists largely of colorful tiny buildings in miniature-seamless streets. Today it is a beautifully laid-out pedestrian area and the houses have all become shops or boutiques.

You will also have time for a trip on the little paddle-steamer *Hjelen*, which has been carrying visitors on Silkeborg's lakes since 1881. Silkeborg's main attraction however is housed in the town museum close to the river. It is the body of a Jutlander sacrificially murdered over 2,000 years ago, and mummified by the peat in which he was buried — one of many such bodies discovered in the peat bogs. What is so special about the

Tollund Man, as he is called (from the spot where he was found), is that his incredibly well preserved features could be those of many modern Jutlanders.

Of all the times you can visit along your route the one at Svovstrup, about six miles downstream from Silkeborg, is specially attractive. Lawns and flowerbeds stretch up from the river. The inn's original half-timbered single-storey thatched buildings enclose a spacious quinqueling. The bar and restaurant are full of beams and old timberwork. Food and service are both excellent and staff speak English in the normal Danish way.

Arranging your holiday is simplicity itself. Serious canoeing experience is hardly necessary, though you ought to be happy about handling the boat in smooth water. Many firms hire equipment, but all charge the same prices and you can book through the Silkeborg Tourist Bureau (Torvet 9, DK-

8611 Silkeborg). There are no fixed starting days.

The price you pay includes seven days' hire of canoe, paddles, and life jackets, a map and information pack, and the use of a tent and food underlaid. In the season (mid-June to the beginning of August) the tents are already erected on the campsites and all you need do is show your canoe licence pass. Outside that period you show the tent in your canoe and erect it yourself.

Each canoe holds two adults, or two adults and one small child (under 12), or an adult and one or two small children. You provide your own sleeping bags — which should be warm: Danish summers are not necessarily steamy hot — and your food. Cooking facilities are available on the campsites.

Note that mid-August is an excellent time for this holiday. The high season is over, but the weather stays

warm till early September. And prices are lower.

Not that they are high, even at the season's peak. You pay Dkr 1,400 (£110) at present exchange rates for two people in one canoe and a supplement of Dkr 711 (£4.75) for a child eligible to travel with them. Prices in the low season are Dkr 1,275 (£90) and Dkr 70.

The Silkeborg Tourist Bureau (address above) provides detailed information about these canoe trips and the region's attractions. The easiest way to reach it from Britain is by DFDS Danish Seaways' ferries from Hirtsholm or Newcastle to Esbjerg, and thence by train or your own car. Some people may find air travel more convenient however.

Either way, the Danish National Tourist Office (109/173 Regent Street, London W1R 8PY) can tell you all you need to know about getting to Silkeborg.

EXTRA

Carnival and Crop Over

Diane Spencer celebrates in Trinidad and Barbados

"What if it rains?" I asked. "We don't want any of your nasty British weather here," Nigel Barrow, the Minister of Information and Culture, replied, refusing even to contemplate the worst.

But it happened. The Calypso final, the highlight of this year's Crop Over festival in Barbados, was postponed and finally abandoned half way through rain stopped play.

The remarkable thing was that no one noted, threw bottles or even booed. The 12,000 spectators in the stadium abandoned their wet seats and tramped off home through the mud and puddles. Recriminations about organization and the need for a better venue were left to the press, and the radio phone-in programmes.

And throughout the month-long festival which culminated in a long weekend in July of street processions, markets and music, there was no trouble. The same goes for Trinidad. In the two days before Lent each year, it seems that half the population of Trinidad is squashed into Port of Spain, the capital, to celebrate Carnival.

Although it is a sleep-starved, mind-blowing experience: rum for some, illegal substances for others (the air in some streets is redolent with them), yet there are far fewer problems than at a well-policed football match back home. Barbados has a long way to go before it can match the colourful street processions of Trinidad; after all, the latter has been practising for at least 100 years, but the recently revived summer Crop Over festival has its own charm.

It was once a day's holiday for the slaves to mark the end of the sugar harvest. After an unsuccessful attempt to restore it in the early 1970s mainly to attract tourists in the leaner summer months, the government decided two years ago to give it a firm base in the community. It has now taken off in a big way.

The final weekend is preceded by local fairs and concerts around the island and latent talent has been flushed out and nurtured by a team from the Ministry of Information and Culture. Now the Barbadians are getting just as excited by calypsoes as their neighbours in Trinidad.

Fortunately, Crop Over has not yet gone as commercial as Carnival. Although anyone — black or white, rich or poor, can join a street procession — "jump with the band", Trinidadians spend vast sums on elaborate costumes. Last year, band leader Peter Minshall put more than 3,000 butterflies on the streets, while Edmund Hart fielded armies of ancient Egypt and Rome in a kind of history of Cleopatra with a cast of at least 3,500.

This year Minshall's theme was "River". Hart's was Babylonian history. And they are just two, albeit about the biggest, of 100-plus bands. By the end of the second day the streets are littered with discarded costumes. On Ash Wednesday, the band leaders are planning next year's theme, and the revellers are saving up.



On the Saturday before the "bucchanale" begins, it is the children's turn. Schools devote, critics claim, an inordinate amount of time to preparing for the "Kiddies' Carnival". But the results are spectacular. Clowns, princesses, space creatures, all painted and sequined, wait their turn in the broiling sun to parade through the streets and across the savannah.

Next year, Elton Matley, Director of Culture in Barbados, hopes to organize a similar event during Crop Over. In any case he wants to get the schools more involved. But the festival will have to be reformed so it does not coincide with exams. The only disadvantage with this idea is that it places the event more firmly in the rainy season.

Nevertheless, Crop Over makes Barbados an even more attractive place to visit in the summer, which is when most British tourists do. Trinidad is wonderful for Carnival — if, of course, you like that kind of thing, and can stand the pace. Otherwise not.

The scenery is varied, the beaches are good — and even better on Tobago; but it is a difficult country to live in outside of Carnival time. Telephones are temperamental, so are the water and electricity supplies and the public transport system needs careful study before use.

Barbados is a haven of order and efficiency in contrast. There you have a wide choice of hotels, cheap and regular bus service round the island, and free telephones that work. Unfortunately, it is no longer cheap. Inflation, the fall in the pound against the dollar and a desire by the locals to make hay while the tourist sun shines, have seen to that.

It is, of course, possible to combine the peace and quiet of Barbados in winter with the excitement of Carnival in Trinidad. And the smaller island of Barbados is an excellent jumping off point to explore the even tinier Grenadines or St Lucia, Martinique or St Vincent.

Don't be too ambitious though. Remember you are on Caribbean time there. A 40-minute flight might take four hours — safety good, punctuality bad might be said of the inter-island airlines. However, there is plenty to do and see in Barbados, and the sun, sand and sea will satisfy most people.

Travel notes: Caribbean Airways, the national airline of Barbados now uses British Caledonian's planes and crew and I can recommend the comfort and sun-

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EXTRA

Land of the Irish RM

Visited by Dudley Wilson

Since youth I have chuckled over those masterpieces of Irish comic writing *Somerville's Experiences* by Somerville and Ross. There is such affectionate insight into Irish character, such operatic set-pieces as the Aulos dance and a fire crowned by the brilliantly contrived marriage of Flurry and Sally, to satisfy a lifetime of re-reading.

Channel 4's serial with Peter Bowles and Beryl Reed fully captured both spirit and style of the original — no small feat. I always see West Cork through the Irish RM's eyes. I have ridden with the hunt chasing wily foxes to their Atlantic cliffs, joined the Lisheen races and rejoiced in the fabulous sport at horsefairs.

Reality, I am delighted to report, almost a century later is very little different. An entrancingly beautiful countryside has barely been touched by harsh change. Pub life is highly musical and culture is strongly influenced by horse matters.

I declare Skibbereen, surely the Skelham of the stories, capital of Irish RM country. It thrives today, gently bustling, retaining many small shops which sell such a variety of mixed goods as to make shopping in Ireland always an adventure.

Old shop fronts and signs sport Murphy, O'Driscoll, Byrne and Murray in profusion. These modest establishments are cheerfully painted in pink or yellow or shades of green. Home bakers and decent butchers provide alike for locals and self-caterers who settle, albeit fleetingly, in the countryside around. I recall with snacking longing a cheery brack for tea which tasted authentically rich and fruity.

Often the quickest way to the heart of a community is in the columns of the local newspaper and the *Southern Star* incorporating the *Skibbereen Eagle* of the Irish RM's day is a prime example. I read several hilarious reports, "Garda took down wrong time — contained publican," and "Are piteous and wish the same?" if cases he would have found familiar.

Anyone seeking a theme conten-

porary with the RM stories, Irish to its tragic-comic core, need only consult the annals of the Skibbereen Railway opened in 1899. Trains left Skibbereen backwards into a suling! Today Fastnet Candle Factory occupies the former station whilst the viaduct at Brillydehob remains a handsome stone memorial to charm and folly. I felt Skibbereen's market-town quality as intact as when Major Yeates, the Resident Magistrate himself, looked so forbiddingly at Mrs Mahoney through the spokes of the bicycle he was pumping up outside the grocer's.

But it is to Castletownshend that Somerville and Ross admirers must go. I was apprehensive that all would be changed and that lading photographs from Dr Somerville's reminiscences would be betrayed by garish "improvements". Not a bit of it. In Castletownshend the "steamroller of time" has not obliterated old wheel tracks. "Its single street falls unobtrusively as Niagara, straight to the sea" as Somerville puts it.

The two sycamores have survived attempts to uproot them. They remain, set in a giant flower pot of rough stones, in the middle of the street, half-way down. A traffic hazard in the unlikely event of several vehicles appearing at once in Castletownshend. These trees remain the gossip centre of this lovely, timeless village with its simple houses and high stone walls lining the street.

Nearby is Mary Anne's stone-flagged bar in whose garden we lunched on crab sandwiches and shandy. On the peaceful quayside looking out over moored boats in the waters of Castletown, we chatted with the fisherman, amidst his creels, who had landed those very crabs that morning. The castle in the village name, still



Peter Bowles, Channel 4's Irish RM

owned by the Townshend family, lies by the water's edge and is now holiday flats but there is no whiff of commercialism about Castletownshend. On a knoll reached by 52 steps, one for each Sunday of the year, stands the Church of St Barnabas, a place of pilgrimage for Somerville fans. She is buried in the churchyard by the side of her beloved cousin Martin Ross. She acted as organist for 70 years, her mother obliging at the harmonium for many years previously.

Today's congregation totals just 10 but they ambitiously plan a festival in Dr Somerville's honour next year. They manage concerts in season given usually by Gernians who grace the front desks of Continental orchestras and who discerningly stay in local cottages.

From the little port deep-sea fishing trips leave around them in search of shank, conger and skate. No account of Castletownshend should omit Shreeclay, I beg pardon, Drishane. Major Yeates's house was Shreeclay. It is to be confused with the Somerville home on the hilltop before the road plunges into the village.

Drishane is not open to the public but perhaps arrangements will be made during the forthcoming celebrations. It was the home of Dr Somerville's grandparents too. Her grand-

father used to swear in witnesses on a bound copy of Bradshaw, by the way. Its weather-stained walls and Georgian windows give it a solid, severe appearance. Dr Somerville, besides her duties as church organist and honours as a successful writer, was also Master of Foxhounds and Magistrate — some lady!

I could continue attempting to identify stony houses but will not spoil the game for you. My hunt led me to some of the most delectable scenery I have ever stumbled upon. I leave it to you to discover Lough Linn, scene of that memorable regatta and a venue selected probably because the secretary owned a punt at the crossroads nearby but "none the less the President of the Royal Academy could scarcely have chosen more picturesque surroundings."

The coastline is extraordinarily beautiful, with the sea making fiord-like indentations, carrying out coves and leaving magnificent sandy beaches. At all beauty herabouts, consider Lough Linn takes the palm. It is a saltwater lake filled twice daily by tides surging through almost hidden narrows. Overlooking the inlet we found, amidst thick gorse, banks of matted honeysuckle, heather and brambles a young couple repairing one of the most superbly styled cottages you can imagine.

Hillside woods flanking with a delectable cup this haven but don't dream almost as good along the coast. You need to venture, however, along single-track roads, past farms and cross remote headlands not to reach such lovely masterpieces of nature. At Trillick, a small beach, some catamarans, singing and unobtrusive summer cottages, development, we bought our potatoes, woolly socks and jackets for 10p. Knitwear all top quality and best priced.

Perhaps the finest port is Ballyvaughan, now a sailing and boat building centre, with ferry services to both Sherkin and Clear Island in Rosbeg Water. On Sherkin is Ireland's only outdoor pursuit centre which attracts some British school parties. Contact Matt Murphy on Ballyvaughan 871. Cape Clear Island is interesting and thriving thanks to a cooperative which helps produce pottery, leather goods and a distinctive, golden flavoured goat cheese.

Grand touring takes in the peninsula to Mizen Head, by way of a scenic drive, or along the Beata culminating in a cable-car crossing of the waves to Durney. Alet literary devotees will recognize this Drishane in the setting of *The Mangan Inheritance*, providing up-to-date statistics in the wake of Mangan's own. The region's better-known glories include the Ring of Kerry, Glengarriff and Bantry Bay, lush vegetation, banded hedges and palm trees all in a valley, often sunny climate.

We stayed at Kathleen O'Sullivan's comfortable Seaview Hotel, Ballyvaughan where excellent dinners feature, at your choice, fresh fish in soup, beef steaks and main courses. I noted simple B&B, farmhouse and catering accommodation all at modest rates. We rounded off our visit with dinner and a night at Ballyvaughan House, Shanawary, spoiling ourselves with the comforts and gastronomic delights proffered by the Allen family who own and run this marvellous establishment.

I travelled with my own car using B+L, which services Dublin, Cork, Roslindale from Liverpool, Holyhead and Penbroke. Their packages are well worth attention and include local £40 weekly, decent holiday homes or Rosserberry which is well placed for further experiences of Irish RM territory.

A la recherche de prix perdus

Michael Houser goes shopping in Calais

Rodin's statue of the agonized *Bourgeois de Calais*, standing just outside the city's town hall, is a foretold reminder of England's first siege of Calais, when in 1347, Edward III began an English occupation which only ended with the death of Bloody Mary more than two centuries later.

Today, armed to the teeth with pocket calculators of fiendish accuracy, fully briefed on duty-free allowances and ably supported by intelligence reports from spies masquerading as tourists, each week during the low season a British invasion force numbering some 30,000 shoppers storms ashore from an armada of hovercrafts and cross-Channel ferries. The second siege of Calais has begun.

Apart from a whiff of Continental ambience — "abroad" begins at Calais, so the saying goes — the booty sought by these plundering hordes is the treasure reputedly cached at the Centre Commercial de la Cote d'Opale, the code name for Calais' hypermarket.

Despite more than 10 years' experience with the EEC and the infamous Common Agricultural Policy, it still comes as a shock to find thousands of British bargain hunters braving the elements and a 30-hour day in some cases to buy, among other things, French food. I can still vividly recall those howls of anguish from the little Englishers who originally opposed British membership. They shrieked about the French spending 30-50 per cent of their incomes on food; now

here we are travelling to France to save British food prices.

Not that food is the only, or indeed the prime, booty. Some come along for the ride, literally. Others for a little taste of *la vie commerciale* to get the blood coursing. The O-level French flowing and a memorable meal on two to show the "savings" in. For a majority, these would nevertheless appear an *hors d'oeuvre* to the main course: hypermarketing in bawdy, kitchenware and foodstuffs, with a spig of clothing as the garnish.

During the whole of last year, something like 1.5 million left Britain by sea to go abroad; because it's the closest Continental port and offers the most snailings to choose from, Calais alone conformed nearly a third of the cross-Channel market.

If you are a day tripper on wheels, you will first need to find a happy medium between time and economy; you've already lost an hour on arrival in France because of the difference between British and Continental time. Hoverspeed will get you over in 35 minutes at a competitive passenger fare, but car space is limited and dearer. Townsend Thoresen and Sealink, whose schedules are much less disrupted by bad weather, get you there in 75 and 90 minutes respectively and offer later sailing times back.

If you don't take a car, do find a coach: hoofing it three kilometres to the port laden with hypermarketables is highly unrecommended. Some local travel agents in southern England organize day trips for under £20 (the

coach goes with you). At weekend Townsend Thoresen offers a hypermarket ticket which includes coach service to and from the Centre Commercial.

Take a car if at all possible. And be especially careful of the French *priorité à droite*, even from side streets, otherwise it will be an *enferme* no claims bonus.

I was frankly surprised and disappointed by Calais' hypermarket. It is rather isolated from the old port town centre in a dreary three-deck suburb. The French have a reputation for hypermarket chains, with a particular appropriateness to the scale of the latter of which looks after Calais. It strikes me as more down-market than the other two, whose general air and scale are more attractive.

On a slow day, the place still has something of the look of a market which had recently been liberated by a ravenous Red Army: the cars of particular interest very over-shopped. After a 15-minute search, I finally managed to find a decent chocolate bar more than 60 degrees above the time and which didn't require me to truck more than a 60-degree course to move it in a straight line; on a busy weekend, I could imagine scenes reminiscent of the Oklahoma land rush.

With the French buying wine and baguettes in quantities reserved here for toilet milk, the size is important.

EXTRA

Ruritanian preoccupations

Dan Finlay lingers in Luxembourg

Curiosity brings me to Luxembourg for the first time, to put a face to a name. Though near, it lacks a sharply etched image, and, apart from the delights it offers on the airwaves, remains a geographical blind spot for most.

Arriving from the north, along hump-backed roads, the rugged Ruritanian preoccupations are raised by a pocket state 51 miles long and 35 across, ruled by a Grand Duke, were confirmed: medieval castles like Stolzembourg and Brandembourg, on crags dominating often steep river valleys, seem two a penny, and the atmosphere of the thickly wooded hills and last flowing streams seems distinguished from that of the neighbouring Belgian Ardennes or German Eifel, by a calm which seeps into your soul. Luxembourg generally brings a rambling and secure old garden of childhood to mind.

In this paradise for hill-walkers, campers, and fly-fishermen, the wild buzz still reigns, and the background hum of the technological society is distant. Civilization is mainly represented by a crumbling Roman wall or cult stone. No wonder just hearing the names of the high spirited Our and Witz, Wolzsch and Elsch, was so invigorating for Victor Hugo, enthusiastically exiled in medieval Vianden, whose 1,500 souls are overgrown — inextricably — by a castle so enormous it would make even Attila the Hun think twice. You pass through five gate-houses to enter, and the Knights' Hall, which accommodates 500, would have done credit to Camelot.

In equally beautifully situated Clervaux, with its Benedictine Abbey and twelfth century palace, strung along the winding banks of the Clerf, the blazing August evening on the wicket which sweep down all around was the stuff of cigarette ads. And the lively

cafés are still the locale for smuggler's tales.

Strolling through the morning streets, I was greeted by the delicious smell of freshly baked croissants. The *chouchou* is resplendent with *Luxembourgeois* and pepper sausages, and the patisserie overflows with *Luxembourgeois* quiches and fruit tarts which would tempt a Trappist monk.

However, wander into the forest and reminders of the famous 1944-45

Battle of the Bulge are everywhere, straining one's imagination. Did it really happen here? It was a bitter experience for locals too. "My father was conscripted into the Wehrmacht and my uncle was in the Resistance," declared one. Patton, who liberated Luxembourg, is decidedly a national hero. This has been a land of war and all those castles and walled towns aren't just background scenery for a fairy tale.

continued



A la recherche . . . continued

not a few wide-eyed Britons had stuffed theirs to overflowing with Abatan beer since the price is very tight and there are no import allowances on beer at all.

Strictly in terms of price, the best buys were to be had in wines and Continental spirits, cheeses and kitchenware, though some intrepid businessmen I met found the local wine shops surprisingly competitive. English cheddar at 51.60 francs a kg was incidentally, twice the price of most French cheeses. Kitchenware was a good buy, especially sets of Le Creuset cookware. The clothing was blameworthy, and the bread distinctly disappointing.

I wasn't up to looking at tillex, microwave ovens, dishwashers or cameras — but they are all available if you want them.

If you live any distance from the south coast Channel ports, a day trip can be a pretty long, even gruelling affair — don't make matters worse by sticking solely to the hypermarket. The old port and the old town centred around the Place d'Armes is pleasant, although modern Calais leaves you feeling that somehow you are missing the real thing, that you're not really in Europe yet.

Although the sailings are less frequent, the services to Boulogne are more than adequate (P & O and Hoverspeed from Dover, Sealink from Folkestone). I find Boulogne, with its old *hame ville* (and its own hypermarket) a more attractive complement to hypermarketing than Calais. The Picardy countryside around it is pleasant, reminiscent of Dorset, though with a scale closer to Salisbury Plain. Provided you leave Dover early enough, even day trippers could squeeze in a few hours seeing some of it. A pleasant side-trip for lunch would be Montreuil sur Mer, a

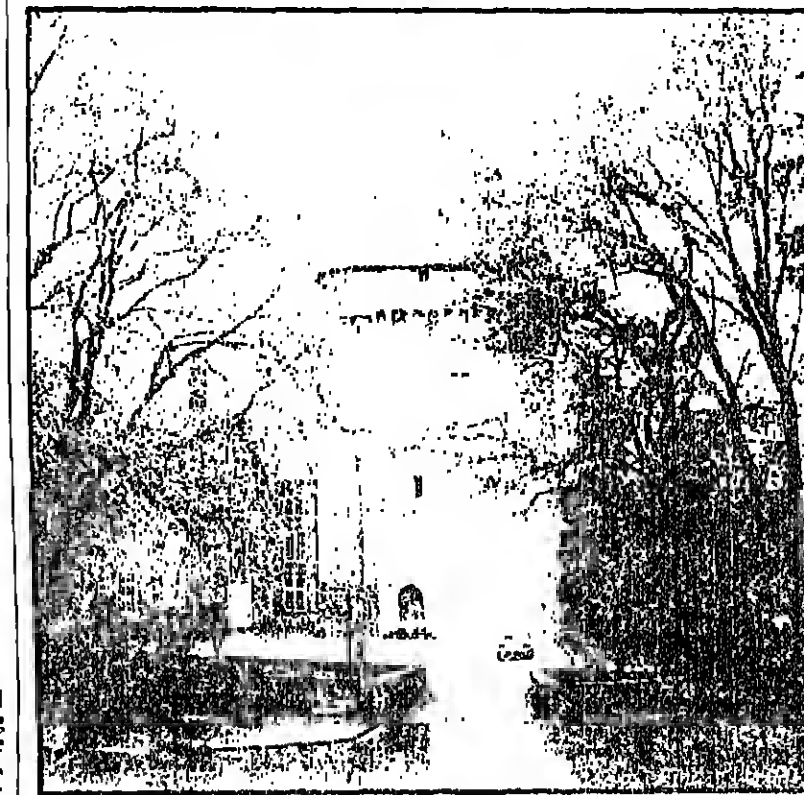
misnamed hill town which combines something of the qualities of Clowely in Devon with the smaller Cling Ports: it is less than 40 minutes south of Boulogne.

The alternative to leaving in the middle of the night and then arrive home shattered in the wee small hours a day later, is to consider one of the short-stay packages on offer. Time Off Ltd (London) offers two nights B & B in Boulogne for under £30 (fare included); Townsend Thoresen offers a two-night stay (B & B) at the Dorset Hotel for £95 for two, with the day trip to Calais and coach services "free". If you can stand four hours on the Channel, Dieppe and Rouen come into the reckoning, although for a short stay, it's a toss up whether Rouen's medieval charm is worth the considerably longer travelling time.

A more recent alternative has arrived in the form of Sally the Viking Line, which plies the Ramsgate-Dunkirk route, and aims to make the crossings themselves as enjoyable an element as the bargain-baiting and the winning and dining. Sally brings a more sophisticated and luxurious feel to the approach to Channel ferrying, and its cheap prices could make members of what *Holiday* Which now regards as a cozy cross Channel curl sit up and take notice.

You may have to persevere with your local travel agents to get Sally's tariff and schedules and Dunkirk may only really appeal in self-drive weekends when you can see a bit of Picardy and Normandy, but the cost savings and quality gained while at sea make it worth considering.

In the final analysis, when you fancy a short hop to the Continent, you are almost certainly better off considering a two or three day mini-holiday rather than day-tripping.



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Ruritanian preoccupations

continued

Notwithstanding the wartime appearance Luxembourg city, dominated by the remains of the redoubtable bastions and citadels which once made it the strongest fortress in Europe, was still a surprise. I'd associated it more with hair-splitting EEC bureaucrats.

On a craggy cliff-top promontory, called the Rock, where the Alzette meets the Petrusse, Count Siegfried built himself a castle in 963. The town developed below the sandstone cliffs, but even in its medieval heyday, when four of the Counts were Holy Roman Emperors, never had more than 4,000 inhabitants. It only numbers 77,000 today.

French, Germans, Austrians, Burgundians and Spanish all expended vast energies trying to take the castle and, after succeeding, expanding its enormous defences until they eventually enclosed 440 acres.

On the Prussians' departure in 1890, Luxembourg spent one and a half million gold marks demolishing the fortifications, and eliminating the city's strategic importance for others. But soon ironically began to restore them as tourist attractions.

I stood on the Rock and savoured the view, then crossed the valley, towards the Rue de Treves, to enjoy the panorama of the cliff-top fortifications themselves. This is a city of more than 700 bridges - some dramatic like the Pont d'Adolphe, which swoops boldly across the valley - because of the way the place is crisscrossed by the gorges of the Petrusse and Alzette.

Legend has it that Siegfried married the beautiful Melusine, not knowing that at full moon she turned into a mermaid in the river below here. Taking an evening constitutional the poor fellow got quite taken aback, and didn't instantly think of anything so urbane as divorce by consent. Melusine, showing a certain prudence, swam off.

The narrow, cobbled street of the old city, full of medieval nooks and crannies to explore, leads to the Montée de Clausen. This is quite distinct from the twentieth century city centred around the Rue de la Liberté on the "other side".

To dispel thoughts of the martial past there's nothing better than sitting at one of the numerous pavement cafés on the fine main square - the Place d'Armes - watching the world go by over a Luxembourg Moselle wine. However, it could be that the musicians on the bandstand will be blasting out marches from an international repertoire. Luxembourg's supposed to have some of the world's best military bands.

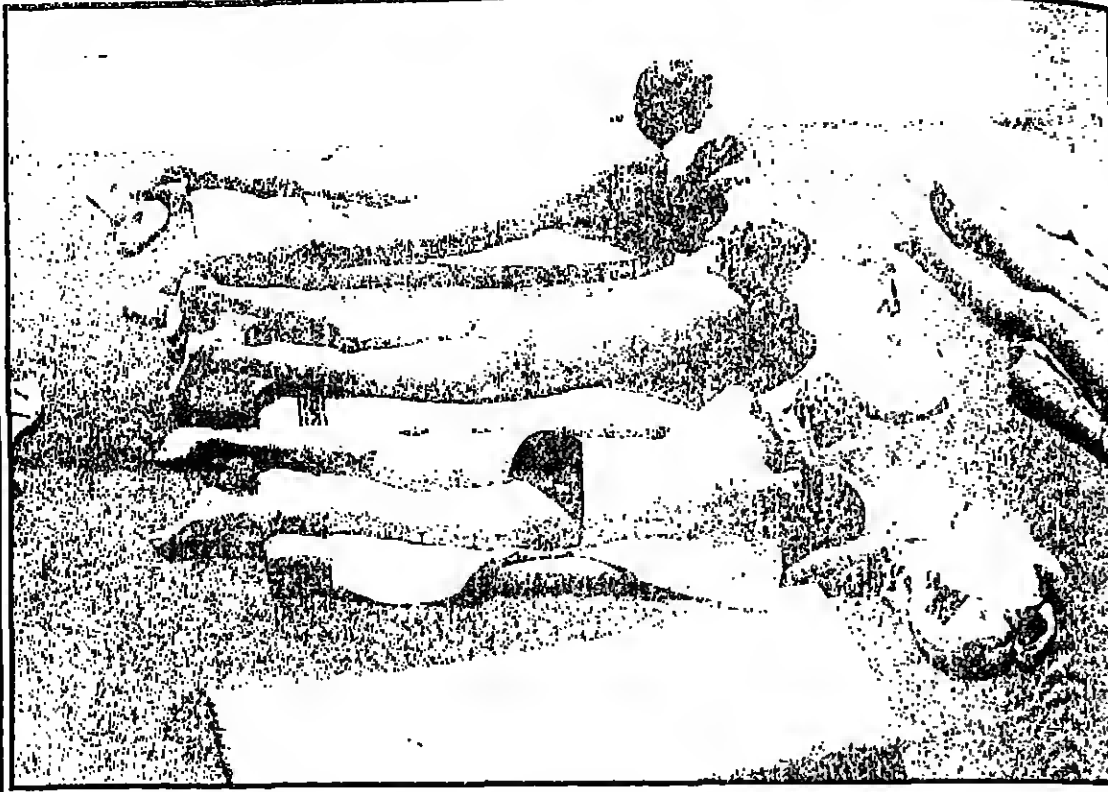
The neighbourhood of the sixteenth century Notre Dame cathedral, and the old fishmarket is pleasant for rambling. The former, containing the tomb of that super-swashbuckler, John the Blind, seems constructed in an oddly severe baroque. Elegant cosmopolitan shops elsewhere contrast with the village atmosphere of children and dogs playing in the alley shown in the Grand quarter huddled on the river.

What are Luxembourgers themselves like? Catholic. Conservative certainly. Not too keen any more than the Swiss or Austrians, but equally Germanic in their own style. Let's be honest, the local language besides French and German, comes in 43 different dialects. And the Communist newspaper once had a name far being witty.

Almost as surprising at the latter, over at Echternach, the world's oldest procession takes place each Whit-Tuesday, in honour of an Englishman. Up to 20,000 serious faced people dance from the Basilica to the tomb of St. Willibrord as they've been doing since circa 1300. The old hymns are sung to the ancient music, and the faithful link themselves together with hunkies.

Why? Some assert that it's inexplicable, but others that certain prayers are to St. Guy, to whom was ascribed the power to heal epilepsy and similar disorders, and that the dancing simulates the symptoms, thus externalizing and dispelling of the disease.

Be that as it may, I found just being in Luxembourg a good cure for the blues.



And some like it hot

Angela Humphery visits Portland Club & Co

"Hit everyone", cried Debbie, the Portland Club 25 rep, who had come to Ibiza Airport to meet us. American, 25 (ish), wearing pin-striped pants, a huge grin and a hibiscus blossom behind her ear, she was a Bette Midler look-alike. During the coach drive to San Antonio on the west coast of the island, we discovered that she sounded like Bette Midler too, singing and telling jokes.

Ibiza is the third largest of the Balearic Islands, Majorca being the largest. Pine fig, orange, lemon, olive and almond trees grow in the rich red earth and in spring the almond blossom covers the ground like snow. Red poppies dot the fields, scarlet geraniums fall out of pots and pink oleander trees and brilliant purple bougainvillea hushes line the roadside.

Club 25 is designed for young people and "25" comes simply from splitting the difference between 18 and 32 (ish) but there's no real demarcation line. "Don't worry if you're over, who's to know? It's your frame of mind that counts, not age", they reassure you.

The club atmosphere, getting away from children and elders, is one of the greatest attractions, and the Club 25 reps. are the key figures in creating it. At least one representative is on hand in each hotel, to organize activities and entertainment for the holidaymakers, by day and night, joining in as one of the club themselves.

"The Hotel Apollo, is modern, simply furnished and in a fairly quiet area, just under a mile from the centre of San An, as they call it, and only 15 minutes from the nearest beach. There's a good sized swimming pool surrounded by a terrace with bar service and a full programme of activities and excursions from wind-surfing, sailing, tennis, water-skiing and pedaloes to the Melior Safari by buggy to beaches around the island."

David, the other Club 25 rep, 25 (ish), blond, dishy and from Liverpool, is in charge of the water-sports and he and Debbie take it in turn to accompany the excursions. But, as the Club 25 brochure says, "the last thing you want is a holiday-camp regime. More like joining up than joining in."

Club 25 has its own disco in the Apollo two or three times a week but for a real taste of the island's night-life we took a trip into Ibiza Town, once home of the hippies. We sat outside the Zoo Bar and watched the fancy-dress parade - the ethnic look of the late sixties has given way to ruffian skirts, fluorescent paper jackets, stone-washed denim, pink pants and cowboy-hats-with-everything. Fashion designers come here to get ideas.

The best disco in all Europe is said to be the KU which is just outside San An. Before going there we had dinner in a magnificent restaurant called Su Copella, a converted chapel with ecclesiastical fittings and taped organ music. I was surprised the waiters weren't wearing cassocks and surplices and that they gave us a bill instead of passing round the plate.

KU seemed quite a culture shock after that, with Europe's cognoscenti boozing their way around this gigantic open-air disco in outrageous gear - gold cowboy-hats topped with a tangle of fishing net, satin stretch pants with leg-warmer and tweed fishing hats. There are three bars, tiered seats with lame cushions for the weary, oleander trees and a vast swimming-pool with a glass slide, next to which is a sunken dancing area so that dancers and swimmers can watch one another.

One day we took a boat-trip to the island of Espalmador where we swam, got a tan and ate piñata at the beach-bar. On the homeward trip we had a glass of Spanish champagne which David had tossed overboard for the more energetic to dive in and retrieve.

We flew over to Majorca for three days to see Club 33, the Club 25 four-tick hotel in Palma Nova, where a bottle of gin costs as little as a huddle of Ambre Solaire. It's all got there with non-stop pop (take ear-plugs), 13 reps, and four entertainers providing fun-and-games in German, Dutch, Swedish and English around a pool crammed with glistening bronzed bodies with barely a bikini-top in sight. There are indoor and outdoor restaurants, an all-night grill, a pool-side snack-bar, music-hall with live bands and Disco 33.

We also took the all-day auto safari excursion with seven vehicles driving in convoy to the north-east of the island, stopping for a picnic lunch on the beach at Puerto de Pollensa. We then had a spectacular drive through the

mountains to La Colobra on the west coast where we swam in the grey clear water.

How to get there: Portland Club 25, Portland Holiday Ltd, 218 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5HG. Tel: 01-383 5111 (Lond) or (061)-228 1188 (Manchester). Seven nights bed and breakfast at Hotel Apollo from £100; seven nights half-board at Hotel 33 from £125. Other destinations are Costa Brava, Rhodes and Corfu.

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STAFFORDSHIRE

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
There is a vacancy for a Headmaster for a secondary school in Staffordshire. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school and its staff. The salary is £17,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Education Officer, Staffordshire County Council, 1st Floor, 100, High Street, Exeter, Devon, EX1 1JH.

HOLTON

METHODIST BOROUGH
There is a vacancy for a Headmaster for a secondary school in Holton. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school and its staff. The salary is £17,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Education Officer, Methodist Borough Council, 1st Floor, 100, High Street, Exeter, Devon, EX1 1JH.

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BARNET

LONGHURST HIGH SCHOOL
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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

WYCOMBE HIGH SCHOOL
There is a vacancy for a Headmaster for a secondary school in Wycombe. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school and its staff. The salary is £17,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Education Officer, Wycombe Council, 1st Floor, 100, High Street, Exeter, Devon, EX1 1JH.

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Music

Heads of Department

AVON COUNTY
HITCHCOCK GREEN SCHOOL
Hitchcock, Va. Hired
Teacher
Teaching Salary
\$15,977
Received from 1 January
1984. Head of Minor Center
is a new school with a
parochial-like Minor Center.
A level made courses col-
legiate with a variety of
prerequisites as well as the
adding Minor Center. In
addition, there is opportunity
to attend the Saturday
School. A National
middle school level and second-
ary level in the area.
Further details from
and letters of application to the
head of the school. For
additional details of qualifica-

Axon is an equal opportunity employer. 1170321133B18

ESSEX
THE GLENHARTWELL SCHOOL
 13001 1401
 Greenward Lane, Hackley
 Town, Southview, 25451
HEAD OF MUSIC, Scott S.
 Large and enthusiastic
 vocalists for vigorous depart-
 ment in 8 f.e. 11 - 16 Cal-
 culation, Computer, Piano,
 Purpose built accommodation,
 Instrumental assistance.
 Any directly by letter to
 the Headmaster with curricu-
 lum and names of refer-
 rences. (Initials) 13.8.16

SUIREY
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
AMERICAN SCIENCE
Asthoria
112 1/2 Main comm. Nor.
11-01
LEAD OF MUSIC with 3 re-
quired lessons 1964-65
Application forms and
number tickets from lead of
Asthoria 43424, 11188-1
13381

WATKINSUIRE
MUSIC SCHOOL
Asthoria Blvd. Warlick
C334 617
12 Yrs., 12-14 years, un-
derstanding of music in a
school
Doubled in number
from 100 to 200 in
performances

Almshuset 1841-1842

involving participants on a regular basis and including a variety of activities. The point will be to give the students a chance to develop their own ideas and to use their own judgment in the selection of materials and in the design of the program. The program will be designed to be a part of the regular curriculum, and will be a part of the regular curriculum. The program will be designed to be a part of the regular curriculum, and will be a part of the regular curriculum. The program will be designed to be a part of the regular curriculum, and will be a part of the regular curriculum.

Form and details from

Headmaster at
176431 13311

**WILTSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**

STONEHENGE SCHOOL
Antrobus Road, Amesbury,
Wilt.

Mixed 11 - 16
Comprehensive 500 on roll
MUSIC Scale 5

Resuming from
1984 - Director of Music
Scale 2 to have overall
control of the subject. In
this small established town
comprehensive school. The
school has a reputation for
a wide range of musical
activities. Amesbury is a
small town with beautiful
countryside just north of
Salisbury.

Application forms and
details available from

Headmaster. (51845) 166818

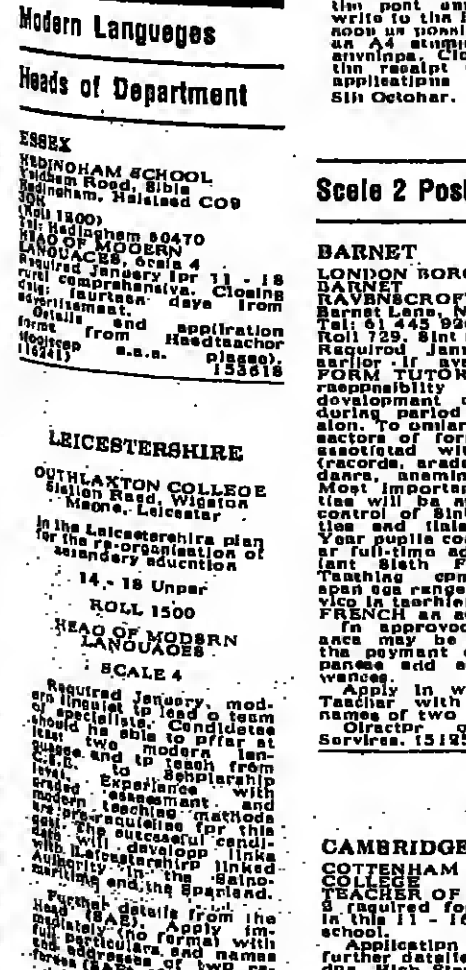
ROYAL GRAMMAH
SCHOOL
Osildford

(HMC, 760 day boys, 200
in 6th Form)

Reprinted January 1984
April 1984 DIRECTOR OF PR
MUSIC.

Full details from Heph-
master's Secretary, Royal
Grammar School, High
Street, Guildford, Surrey

**BIRMINGHAM
CITY COUNCIL**



Required for January 1994, an ability to offer some English an advantage essential.

and further details
the post and the
write to the Headm
soon as possible, p
an A4 stamped ad
envelope. (S12471

Full details from Hepd-
maatar's Secretary, Royal
Grammar School, High
Street, Guildford, Surrey
GU1 6BB. (18828) 136818

Age Group	Percentage of Respondents
18-29	65%
30-49	75%
50-69	80%
70+	85%

WOODVIEW COLLEGE
WOODVIEW, GUYANA
REQUIRED FOR JANUARY
1984
LI-N.N.E.H. COURSE
The successful candidate
be required to teach

HAMPSHIRE
FAIRHORN COLLEGE OF
TECHNOLOGY

TEMPORARY LECTURER IN COMPUTING/ DATA PROCESSING
in the Department of Computer Science, Appointment of 31 weeks in first instance.

Applicants should have good knowledge of computers and experience and acceptable qualifications. Salary range £5,645 to £9,745 per annum (plus pension) depending on experience and qualifications.

Further particulars from the British Office, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, Foreign Policy, Boundary Road, London W14 9SE. Tel: 071-498 6151 to A.E. (newsp).

Closing date: 7th October 1983. (160461) 220026

HAMPSHIRE
TRICKLEDALE COLLEGE

ENGINEERING
 If required for January 1984
 administer the technology section of Grade IV Science and Technology Department
 this honorary college under

Degree or equivalent education and appropriate teaching and industrial experience in engineering disciplines required. Previous applicants wishing to re-apply should inform us.

MATHEMATICS
 Required for January 19
 to Grad at all stages up
 to A-level. The ability to
 concentrate would be an ad-
 vantage, but it is not essential.
 Salary - £9,644 - £9,735.
 Qualification terms
 further details from the principal
 at Cricklade, Caffe
 Charlton Road, Andover
 Andover 65311 - 11118 220

Head

for further details from:
 (encl)pef
 Medical College
 a Road
 n-Sea
 y, Chryd
 46666
 October, 1983.

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London
Education Authority
College of Building and
Further Education

QUALIFIED PERSONS

**Grade IV
CATION**

Qualified and experienced persons
department from 1 January 1984.
determination and qualities of
year record which demonstrates the
rently and effectively.
the challenging but rewarding
college work.
er London Allowance.

Form fill to the Senior
01-928 4911. Ext. 7367/7360.

opportunities employer.

Careers Officer (Handicapped Specialist)

Reference E86

Grade Scale 5 £7788-£8493

required urgently by the Bromley Careers Service. Applications invited from qualified and preferably experienced Careers Officers interested in taking up the challenge of this demanding post.

Although most of the duties are concerned with young people in special education, the successful applicant will be a member of a team and will have some continuing involvement in mainstream schools. The Service operates from a well equipped Careers Centre, where computer systems are about to be integrated into the administration in readiness for 1984 school leavers. Essential user car allowance payable.

Closing date: 7th October 1983.

Application forms from the Assistant Chief Executive (Manpower), Civic Centre, Rochester Avenue, Bromley BR1 3UH. Tel: 01-290 0324 (24 hour answering service).

TES48

London Borough Of
Bromley

Assistant County Education Officer (Schools)

£17,196-£18,735

Kingston upon Thames

An Honours graduate with relevant teaching experience together with experience in local government administration is required. The person appointed will be a member of the senior management team of the Education Department and will have specific responsibilities for the co-ordination and implementation of the Authority's policies for primary and secondary schools.

Application form and further particulars from Head of Manpower Services (Ref: MSD/118), County Hall, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 2DN. Telephone: 01-546 1050, Extension 3577. Closing date 12 October 1983.

SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL

ADMIN LEA cont.

Royal County of BERKSHIRE

General Adviser (Further Education)
£16,008 to £17,282

Applicants will be expected to be able to offer a range of experience and responsibility within Further Education together with an appreciation of the changing aspects of the Education Service.

Assistant Education Officer (Multicultural Education)
£15,399 to £16,461 p.a.

Applicants must be graduates with successful teaching and administrative experience. This is a newly created and challenging post, to be responsible for implementation of a series of new programmes designed to support the County's policy on education for racial equality and to work closely with the Director of Education. The post is within the Schools Division and responsible to the Senior Education Officer (Secondary and Special), but will involve liaison with the Education Department as a whole. Experience in the field of, and commitment to, education for racial equality will be a clear advantage.

Further details and application form (enclosed large SAE) from the Director of Education, PR1, White Hall, Whitefield Park, Reading, RG2 8XE. Closing date 7th October 1983.

Assistant Centre Organiser
£7,191-£8,712 p.a.

(Starting point dependent upon qualifications and experience)

The Plan, Tatcham is to become a centre for community based programmes for young people in trouble. This will include intermediate treatment, assessment of young people coming into care, counselling parents and teachers and work with local schools on truancy and other school problems. Day, evening and weekend activities are envisaged. A range of skills will be needed by the staff group of five and applications are invited from those with experience of direct work with young people either as teachers, youth workers or in social service settings. Should a teacher be appointed he/she would have professional links with The Kennet Comprehensive School. Temporary accommodation may be available.

For further details and application forms please contact Mr. A. Griffiths, Assistant Director, Social Services Divisional Office, 9-16, West Street, Newbury, Berks. (Newbury 46548). Closing date October 7th, 1983.

Berkshire County Council is an equal opportunity employer and all applicants will be considered solely on the basis of ability for the post irrespective of race, colour, sex, marital status or disability.

TES48

ilea Inner London Education Authority

Assistant Principal Careers Officer

Salary: £15,096-£16,776

(Inclusive of £1,284 London Weighting) Under Review

Applications are invited for this important post from qualified careers officers with substantial and recent management experience at a senior level in a local authority Careers Service.

The successful candidate will have line management responsibility for the operation of the Careers Service in the N.E. London Quadrant and service-wide responsibility for liaison relating to unemployment including Careers Service involvement in the Youth Training Scheme.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Education Officer, EO/Edsb 18, Room 305, The County Hall, London, SE1 7PB. Completed forms should be returned by Friday 30th September 1983.

ILEA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

TES48

Northumberland County Council

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

£21,045-£22,449

Applications are invited for the above post from suitably qualified candidates who have wide senior management experience in the Education Service.

Application forms with further details can be obtained from the Chief Executive, County Hall, Morpeth, NE41 2EF. Tel: Morpeth 61 4343, Ext. 3001 and should be returned by 7th October, 1983.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Burnham Headteacher Equivalent, Group 10

Applications are invited for the post of Director of Professional Support Services. This person, appointed, who should have significant and successful teaching experience, will be responsible for the co-ordination of the Department's professional support services to teachers in schools and colleges throughout the Authority.

The successful applicant will work closely with members of the Authority's Inspectorate and Heads of a variety of Centres and Units. Qualifications and experience commensurate with an appointment of this senior level are required.

Further details and application forms may be obtained from:

The Chief Education Officer,
Room 311,
Education Office,
Margaret Street,
Birmingham B2 6BU.

to whom completed applications should be returned not later than Friday, 7th October, 1983.

Applications for these key posts are sought from candidates of graduate status with extensive and successful relevant local authority experience at a senior level. Consideration may also be given to persons able to demonstrate evidence of outstandingly successful administrative ability in senior management in other sectors.

PRINCIPAL OFFICER (GENERAL SERVICES)

Ref: ED 921 £13,335-£13,992 p.a.

A wide range of duties is involved including assistance with the financial forward planning of the Education Service, oversight of the School Meals service and policy aspects relating to the employment of manual staff especially in the catering and cleaning services.

PRINCIPAL OFFICER (STAFFING)

Ref: ED 922 £10,542-£11,649 p.a.

The successful applicant will direct, co-ordinate and supervise the work of all officers in the Teachers Staffing Section, including the administrative work concerned with the recruitment, appointment, resignations, conditions of service, promotion, in-service training etc. of teachers throughout the Authority's schools. The postholder will also be responsible for certain line management/supervisory functions relating to non-teaching staff.

Please quote appropriate reference number.
Closing date 7.10.83.

Application forms obtainable from the Personnel Officer, Room A/204, Town Hall Annex, New Broadway, Ealing, W5. Tel: 01-840 1996/24 hour service.

Ealing
London Borough

Regional Centre for Industrial Language Training (Weet Midland)
Butts Centre, Walsell

DIRECTOR

The ILT unit in Walsell was one of the first established, in 1976, and was designated the Regional ILT Centre in 1978, following national agreement to long-term funding for the ILT scheme by the DfES. The unit currently employs twelve full-time and six part-time staff.

The unit provides the full range of ILT services, with some twenty in-company language courses per year, and a variety of skills-linked courses for redundant workers with funding from TOPS and the local authority. The unit has also specialised in developing and mounting short training courses for redundant workers with funding from TOPS and the local authority. The unit has also specialisations such as local authorities and the NHS.

The post requires energy and imagination, together with management skills and experience in ILT or a closely related field. The post is graded at Burnham F.E. Head of Department Grade 11 (currently £11,970-£13,494 p.a.) and carries a career allowance.

Full details and application form available from:
R. D. Nixon M.A., Director of Education,
Civic Centre, Derwent Street, Walsell.
Closing date: 30th September 1983.

WALSALL - AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Industrial Language Training

Careers Service CAREERS OFFICERS

(Two Posts)
Bealton and Colchester
Scale 5: £7,191-£7,898 (plus £183 fringe allowance for Bealton post)

Applicants should preferably hold or expect to obtain the Diploma in Careers Guidance and will be required to carry out a full range of duties including vocational guidance of young people in schools, and counselling and guidance for the young unemployed.

Car mileage and subsistence allowances payable in approved cases.

Good progression prospects in approved cases.

Closing date: 7th October 1983.

Application forms and further details available from County Education Officer (P), PO Box 47, Threadneedle House, Market Road, Cheltenham GL50 1LD. Tel: 0245 267222, Ext. 2626.

ESSEX
County Council

SPORTS COUNCIL
FOR WALES
CYNGOR CHWARAEON
CYMRU



ASSISTANT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The Sports Council for Wales requires an Assistant Development Officer situated in the Caernarfon area.

As part of a development team, the officer will be responsible for promoting and operating schemes designed to increase participation in sport and recreation, to improve standards of performance and to provide and make optimum use of facilities.

Applicants should have experience in the practice and development of one or more sports, a keen interest in a broad range of activities and a knowledge of the work of local authorities and voluntary bodies in community recreation.

The ability to speak and write Welsh would be an advantage.

The salary will be within the range of Executive Officer, i.e. £5,798 to £9,078. This salary range includes a 20% addition for the long and additional hours associated with the job.

Application forms and job descriptions may be obtained from:

The Administrator
Sports Council for Wales
National Sports Centre
Sophia Gardens
Cardiff CF1 9SW

Applications to be received by Monday, 3rd October, 1983.

SCHOOL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Applications are invited for the post of Chief Executive of the School Curriculum Development Committee, one of two successor bodies to the Schools Council.

The Committee will be charged with reviewing and initiating curriculum development work for schools in England and Wales; and with its dissemination. It will work in close liaison with the Secondary Examinations Council which is based in the same premises in central London. The two bodies will share a common services unit.

The successful candidate must demonstrate substantial knowledge of, and interest in, the development of the curriculum, and experience of educational administration at a senior level. An early appointment is sought.

The salary is that for an Assistant Secretary in the Civil Service, currently £19,243 to £23,159. In addition London Weighting of £1,250 is payable.

Arrangements for this appointment are being made jointly by the Association of County Councils, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the Department of Education and Science. Further details and application forms are available from the Secretary, Association of Metropolitan Authorities, 36 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9JE. Tel: 01-222 8100, Ext. 244. Closing date 21 October 1983.

Training and Work Preparation

Head of Quality and Development Unit
£19,240-£23,155

The Manpower Services Commission Quality and Development Unit is being set up to research, develop and monitor the quality of training and work preparation schemes administered by the Commission. The content, quality assessment and validation of performance, and credit recognition, training at all levels including youth, adult and adult training will fall within the scope of the Unit which will also assist in securing progression from foundation training into vocational education and occupational training.

The Head of the Unit will be the Commission's Quality Training and, through him, to the Commission for the maintenance and development of quality and standards in the £1 billion a year Youth Training Scheme which became fully operational this month.

He/she will have direct responsibility for 4 or 5 staff development units of professional and administrative staff and links with 9 regional Quality Advisers.

Candidates should be at least 35 years of age although younger applicants with exceptional relevant experience will be considered. The successful

candidate will be able to operate effectively in a sensitive environment and will have held a senior post in training, industry or the educational sphere. An up-to-date knowledge of curriculum and relevant developments in youth training, vocational education and related policy programme developments is essential. He/she will have proven management and negotiating skills and will have the background, status and ability to influence professional and national bodies, including those concerned with validation and standard setting, and to deal authoritatively with management, professional and administrative contacts at all levels.

Salary £19,240-£23,155. The post is based in Sheffield and is for a period of 3 years initially with a possibility of conversion to a permanent appointment. Secondment will be considered.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 14 October 1983) write to Civil Service Commission, Alconon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG23 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 6855 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref 6977/2.

Manpower Services Commission

Administration General

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

THE COLLEGE OF ST PAUL AND ST MARY
The Park, Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire

College Secretary/Registrar required for the College of St Paul and St Mary. This is a senior administrative post in the college and requires a person with a proven administrative and financial organisation and a proven ability to follow administrative and financial procedures.

Further particulars and application form from the Bursar, College of St Paul and St Mary, The Park, Cheltenham GL50 2PH. (02401) 500000

LONDON

COLLINS PUBLISHERS
Promotion Manager
Restaurants and Educational Division

An experienced promotion manager is required for the Collins Reference and Educational Division. The successful candidate will be responsible for all aspects of the division's promotion and advertising work. The postholder will be responsible for the development of a substantial budget and will have a close liaison with the editorial departments. Salary and other terms of employment will reflect the importance of the post in the development of this division.

Please write with full details of qualifications and experience to: Paul Edwards, Managing Director Collins Reference and Educational Division, 3 Buckingham Place, London SW1E 6HR. (01-5161) 500000

MANCHESTER

NORTH WEST REGIONAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD
Certificate of Secondary Education

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced men and women for a post of Assistant Secretary in the Board. The successful candidate will be responsible for the administration of the Board's examinations.

Salary Scale: £11,364 to £12,732.

The successful applicant will be involved in the development of the Board's examinations and will undertake professional and administrative work with the examination of the Board's examinations.

Salary: £11,364 to £12,732.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary to the Board, Orbit House, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0LW. (01-5159) 800000

WANTED RETIRED EDUCATION OFFICERS
International Placement Centre seeking retired County Education Officers or officers in Education to manage their own business. Box 10033, 15128, Elm, 54409, 01-500000

Education Psychologists

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION PSYCHOLOGIST - YORK
£8,454 - £14,253

Applications are invited from qualified Educational Psychologists for a temporary post in the Schools Division, Yorkshire Education Service, in the Schools Division, Yorkshire Education Service, in the Schools Division, Yorkshire Education Service.

The duties will include the following: to advise on the use of psychological tests and to advise on the use of psychological tests and to advise on the use of psychological tests.

For further details and application form, please contact the Director of Education, Yorkshire Education Service, 170881, 01-500000

Librarians

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

MILTON KEYNES AREA
SIR FRANK MARKHAM

Tencher to teach multiple remedial groups and to advise on the use of the Council's resources.

Salary scale 1: £15,250 to £20,000

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
MILTON KEYNES AREA
SIR FRANK MARKHAM

Applications are invited for the post of Librarian to the Library and to teach with the Library. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of the Library and to teach with the Library.

Salary scale 2: £15,250 to £20,000

Ancillary Services

Required January 1984. Need to be a good team player and to be able to take charge of a team of staff.

For further details and application form, please contact the Director of Education, Yorkshire Education Service, 170881, 01-500000

For further details and application form, please contact the Director of Education, Yorkshire Education Service, 170881, 01-500000

For further details and application form, please contact the Director of Education, Yorkshire Education Service, 170881, 01-500000

Examiners

EAST MIDLAND REGIONAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD

(CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION)

Applications are invited for the post of Examiner in the following subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Modern Languages, Music, Art, Design, Physical Education, and Sports.

For further details and application form, please contact the Director of Education, Yorkshire Education Service, 170881, 01-500000

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Oxfordshire County Council

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

AREA EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Applications are invited for the post of full-time Area Educational Psychologist to work in South Oxfordshire. The person appointed will work in ordinary schools, the Child Guidance Service, and with special schools.

Salary: Southbury scale (£10,851-£14,253). Appropriate car allowance payable.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Chief Education Officer, Oxfordshire County Council, Mecklefield House, New Road, Oxford OX1 1NA, to whom completed forms should be returned by 7th October, 1983.

CYNGOR SIR

DYFED
COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANT EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

(EDN 151) - Carmarthen

Salary: £8,454-£10,143

Applicants for the above post must possess a degree and mileage allowance will be paid in accordance with the Council's scale.

Application forms returnable by 6th October 1983, and further details are available on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope from the Director of Personnel and Management Services, County Hall, Carmarthen.

WELSH JOINT EDUCATION COMMITTEE CYD-RWYLLGOR ADDYSG CYMRU

Appointment of Examiners

General Certificate of Education Advanced Level

1984 Assistant Examiners in Economics and History.

1985 Chief Examiner in Craft and Design - Wood

1985 Chief Examiner in German (Language)

1985 Chief Examiner in Home Economics - A3 Clothing and Textiles

Ordinary Level

1984 Assistant Examiners in Computer Studies, Economics, English Language, English Literature, French, Geography, German, History and Sociology

Ordinary Level Certificate of Secondary Education Level

1985 Chief Examiner in Mass Media Studies

Certificate of Secondary Education

1984 Assistant Examiners in English, English Literature and Typewriting

1985 Chief Examiner in Human Biology

Applications are also invited for assistant examiners in all subjects at Certificate of Secondary Education level, and these will be placed in a reserve bank and considered as vacancies occur.

Technical Examinations

1984 Chief Examiner in Engineering Craft Studies - Part I

01 General Engineering

1984 Chief Examiner in Commercial Studies

Stage 1 - Office Practice

Stage 2 - Office Practice and Secretarial Duties

1984 Chief Examiner for Certificate of Further Education - Pre

